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RELATED TO THE DIABLO CANYON
NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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ENVIRONMENTAL SCOPING MEETING RELATED TO
THE DIABLO CANYON NUCLEAR POWER PLANT
LICENSE RENEWAL APPLICATION

+ + + + +

THURSDAY,

FEBRUARY 1, 2024

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The Commission met via video conference,
at 1:00 p.m. EST, Brett Klukan, Regional Counsel,
presiding.

COMMISSION MEMBERS:

BRETT KLUKAN, Regional Counsel, Region I

STEVE KOENICK, Branch Chief

KIM CONWAY, Environmental Project Manager

BRIAN HARRIS, Safety Project Manager

AGENDA

	<u>PAGE</u>
Introduction and Purpose	3
Opening Remarks.....	6
License Renewal (LR) Overview	
Safety Review	8
Environmental Review.....	14
Public Scoping Comments on Topics to Be Included in the Diablo Canyon LR Environmental Review	23

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P R O C E E D I N G S

1:04 p.m.

MR. KLUKAN: So, good morning for those of you on the West Coast and afternoon for those of you in the east. My name is Brett Klukan and I would like to welcome you to this webinar hosted by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Today, I will be facilitating this meeting. Brian Harris and Kim Conway will be our main presenters.

Our goals today are twofold, one, to provide you with an overview of the license renewal process for safety and the environmental reviews for Diablo Canyon license renewal view, and as well --

(Audio interference.)

MR. KLUKAN: A term you're going to hear a lot today is scoping, which simply means determining the scope of the environmental review in the case for continued operation of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. Today's meeting is just one of the ways in which you can participate in that process, and we're going to go more into detail about that later.

If you have any trouble seeing the slides or if they are not advancing for you, the slides shown here on the Microsoft Teams' screen can be found on

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the NRC's ADAMS Library at ML24030A467, and I will put that in the chat here in a minute. Again, those are found at ML24030A467. You can also find a link to that on the NRC's meeting website and there's a link there to the slides.

So, first on the meeting agenda today after some logistics and an opening statement, we will be providing an overview of the license renewal process. After that presentation comes the most important part of this webinar when we will open the virtual floor to receiving your scoping comments. This is where you'll provide your input on what the NRC should consider to be in the scope of the NRC's environmental review for the Diablo Canyon license renewal application.

Here are the overall logistics for our webinar today. This is a comment gathering meeting. That means that we are actively seeking your input. Please note that we are transcribing today's meeting, meaning we are recording it, so the NRC staff can get a full accounting of the comments you provide.

As such, we ask in order to help us get a full and clear accounting of the meeting, by please staying on mute if you're on the phone or keeping, or

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on Teams, and when you are not speaking. Please keep your electronic devices silent, any discussions in the chat to a minimum for technical details.

We won't be collecting comments via the chat. Really the chat is there so in case you're having trouble unmuting yourself or you're having technical difficulties, you can make me aware of that and I can try to help you out as best I can, but again, we're only going to be collecting comments that are posted verbally during this webinar.

However, again, as the staff will go through, there are multiple other ways of providing your comments as well as part of this scoping process.

And it would also help us if you identify yourself when it is your turn to speak, as well as any group affiliations.

When it is your turn to speak or when we get to the public opportunity portion or comment of the meeting, for those of you on Teams, you can use the raise hand function. It looks like a little hand like this at the top of your screen. That lets me know that you would like to speak.

For those of you on the phone, you'll hit *5. Again, that is *5 to raise your hand, quote-

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unquote, and then you'll have to press *6 to unmute yourself. And again, I will go over this again once we get to the public comment portion of the meeting. And again, while we are soliciting comments as part of this meeting, no regulatory decisions will be made at today's meeting.

And with that, I'd like to turn it over for opening remarks to Steve Koenick, the Branch Chief for the Environmental Project Management Branch 1 and the Division of Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support in the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, and with that, Steve, take it away.

MR. KOENICK: Okay, well, thank you, Brett, and good morning or afternoon to everyone. My name, as Brett said, is Steven Koenick, and I'm the Branch Chief for Environmental Project Management Branch 1, and in the Rulemaking, Environmental, and Financial Support Division at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and I'd like to welcome you to today's first environmental scoping meeting for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant license renewal application.

The purpose of this meeting is to inform

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you about our review process and to seek your input on the environmental issues the agency should assess and consider when conducting an environmental review of the Diablo Canyon license renewal application. The public comment period is open for 30 days until February 23, 2024.

As I noted, we are here today to gather information to prepare an environmental impact statement to evaluate the environmental impacts for the potential renewal of the operating licenses for the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Units 1 and 2.

Given the breadth of the NRC's licensing and oversight functions, we have many different actions handled by other specialists throughout the agency at any given time. At this meeting, we look forward to hearing your scoping comments related to the areas covered by our environmental review.

The NRC's process encourages public participation and transparency. Public participation, openness, and transparency are key to all NRC activities, including the licensing of nuclear power facilities.

After the presenters describe the agency's process to conduct safety and environmental reviews,

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we will solicit your comments on the scope of the NRC environmental review. I'm looking forward to your feedback on significant issues that you feel are important for the staff to consider in the detailed analysis of environmental issues to be included in our review of the applicant's environmental report.

Our goal is to hear from you and collect any comments you may have so that we may fully consider them during our review. Thank you in advance for your participation, and now I'd like to turn the mic back to our facilitator. Back to you, Brett.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much, Steve, and with that, I will just pass it over to Kim to begin the NRC's presentation. So, without any further ado, I turn it over to you.

MS. CONWAY: Thanks, Brett. Good afternoon. My name is Kim Conway. I'm the Environmental Project Manager for the Diablo Canyon license renewal environmental review. While many of you attending today's webinar are quite familiar with Diablo Canyon and the license renewal process, we'd like to start today's webinar by providing you with some brief background on Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and its request.

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In November 2009, Pacific Gas and Electric, or PG&E, submitted a license renewal application for the renewal of Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2. In March 2018, the applicant withdrew this initial application based on projected energy demands and other economic factors in the state of California.

Later, in October 2022, PG&E submitted a letter requested the NRC resume its review of this application, and if that was not feasible, requesting an exemption to the NRC's timely renewal provision.

The staff reviewed PG&E's request to resume the review of the prior application, and last January, the staff notified PG&E of its decision to not resume review of the voluntarily withdrawn application. This notification informed PG&E that the NRC was still reviewing the alternative request for exemption. Next slide, please?

The timely renewal provision provides that if a nuclear power plant licensee files a sufficient license renewal application at least five years before the expiration of the existing license, the existing license will not be deemed to have expired until the application has been finally determined.

After a thorough technical and legal

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review of PG&E's supporting information, on March 2, 2023, the staff granted PG&E an exemption that would allow for PG&E to submit a sufficient license renewal application for Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 by December 31, 2023, and the existing licenses would not be deemed to have expired until NRC has made its final determination on that license renewal application.

This past November, PG&E submitted the current license renewal application. The staff performed its acceptance review and found it to be acceptable for docketing on December 19, 2023. As such, these licenses will now be in timely renewal, which brings us today. Slide eight, please?

The NRC issued operating licenses for Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2 in November 1984 and August 1985. The current initial licenses for these units have expiration dates in November 2024 and August 2025.

As I just mentioned, the existing operating licenses for both units will not be considered expired until the NRC has made a final determination on this application. If a license renewal is granted, it will be for an additional 20 years. Next slide, please?

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A license renewal application is required to contain general information such as the applicant's name and address, business and administrative information, and technical information which pertains to aging management. The technical information is the focus of the safety review.

The application also contains an environmental report, which is the applicant's assessment of the environmental impacts of continued operation. This information serves as the starting point for the staff to review the environmental aspects of license renewal for Diablo Canyon. I would now like to turn the presentation over to Brian Harris to provide a short overview of our safety review process for the application. Brian?

MR. HARRIS: Thank you, Kim. And once again, I am Brian Harris. I'm the Safety Project Manager for the Diablo Canyon license renewal review.

And so, I will now walk us through the NRC's license renewal process as shown on this slide.

Starting from the left, the process begins once a license renewal application, or an LRA, has been accepted for review. Then the process breaks into two parallel reviews, the safety review which you

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see on the top, and the environmental review in the middle. These two reviews evaluate separate aspects of the license renewal application.

On the safety side of the review, following the staff's review of the application, the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards, or ACRS, completes an independent review of the application to make a recommendation to the Commission.

And as you see on the bottom of the flowchart, the dotted lines lead to hearings. The dotted lines represent the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the Atomic Energy Act, which establishes a process for members of the public to request involvement in hearings on a variety of civilian nuclear matters, including license renewal. The Commission considers the outcomes of the hearing process in its decision on whether or not to issue a renewed operating license.

Finally, with inputs from the environmental review, ACRS's recommendations on the safety review, as well as the staff's findings from the safety review, a final decision is made by the NRC. Next slide, please?

Okay, so the Atomic Energy Act authorizes

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the NRC to issue licenses for commercial power reactors for up to 40 years. These licenses can be renewed for an additional 20 years at a time. This period following the initial licensing term is known as the period of extended operation.

So, the purpose of the safety review is to identify aging effects that could impair the ability of systems, structures, and components, or SSCs, within the scope of license renewal to perform their intended function, and to demonstrate that these aging effects will be adequately managed during the period of extended operation, and so this scope has not changed from the initial license renewal to subsequent license renewal.

And so, as previously mentioned, in November of 2023, PG&E submitted their license renewal application for the Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2. And so, after receiving the application, the NRC conducted an acceptance review, the first step of our review process. The NRC determined that the application was sufficient and acceptable for docketing on December 19 of 2023.

And so, then we'll move into our technical review for the aging management audit. So, these, our

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aging, excuse me, aging management audit consists of three parts. The first part is the in-office audit, the in-office technical review audit, the onsite audit, and lastly, the breakout audit.

And so, during all of these phases of the audit, the NRC staff reviews the application, documents, and references in greater detail. And so, as part of the safety review, the staff also reviews the applicant's operating experience for information applicable to aging management.

And following the audit, an audit report is issued, and at the very end, the staff will document its review in a safety evaluation or SE. And now I will turn it back over to you, Kim, for the discussion for the environmental review.

MS. CONWAY: Thanks, Brian. I'd now like to shift our focus back to the environmental review. The National Environmental Policy Act obligates federal agencies to consider environmental impacts in federal actions. The NRC's specific environmental regulations are contained in 10 CFR Part 51.

The objective of our environmental review is to determine if the environmental impacts of license renewal are so great that license renewal

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would not be a reasonable option, or more plainly, if license renewal is unacceptable from an environmental standpoint. Next slide, please?

Our environmental review considers the impacts of continuing to operate the plant for an additional 20 years and any proposed mitigation of those impacts as warranted. We also consider the impacts of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action of license renewal, including the impacts of not issuing a renewed license.

The staff documents its environmental review in an environmental impact statement. The staff has developed a generic environmental impact statement that addresses a number of issues common to all nuclear power plants.

The staff is supplementing that generic EIS with a supplemental EIS in which we will discuss issues that are specific to Diablo Canyon. The staff also reexamines the conclusions reached in that generic EIS to determine if there is any new and significant information that would change those conclusions. Next slide, please?

For the license renewal review, a team of NRC subject matter experts, many of whom are listening

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in today, will be reviewing a wide range of environmental resource areas. This slide gives you an idea of the areas evaluated. Some of these areas that are covered in the review are terrestrial and aquatic ecology, environmental justice, water resources, air quality, human health, and historic and cultural resources. Next slide, please?

This slide is a good illustration of the different areas the staff reviews and considers as part of preparing its environmental impact statement and some of the interrelationships between those. Next slide, please?

In conducting our environmental review, we coordinate and consult with various local, state, federal, and tribal officials, and gather pertinent information from these sources to ensure it is considered in our analysis. As illustrated on this slide about consulting agencies, we'll be coordinating with a number of parties, including U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, EPA, and a state historic preservation officer.

As part of the environmental review, the staff may also hold public meetings to receive comments on the draft EIS. I will now discuss the

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environmental scoping process in more detail. Next slide, please?

The environmental review begins with a scoping process, which is why we're here today. The purpose of the scoping process is to identify any significant issues that should be considered in the environmental review.

We are now gathering information that we will use to prepare the environmental impact statement for the Diablo Canyon license renewal. As part of that process, today we would like to gather your comments on the scope of the environmental review, that is the environmental impacts that the staff should consider in the areas illustrated on the diagram we showed earlier.

The scoping period started on January 24, 2024, with a notice of intent to prepare an EIS. The NRC will be accepting comments on the scope of the environmental review until February 23, 2024. In general, we're looking for information about environmental impacts from the continued operation of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant Units 1 and 2 during the period of extended operation.

You can assist us in that process by

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telling us, for example, what aspects of your local community we should focus on, what local environmental, social, and economic issues the NRC staff should examine during its environmental review, and what reasonable alternatives are most appropriate for your local region.

These are just some examples of the input we're looking for, and they represent the kinds of information we're seeking through the environmental scoping period. Your comments today would be helpful in providing insight of this nature for our environmental analysis. Next slide, please?

I mentioned earlier that we've previously reviewed an application for the Diablo Canyon license renewal that was submitted back in 2009, but we didn't complete our review. As part of it, the staff initiated and then reopened an environmental scoping process in 2010 and 2015.

Any comments provided during those periods were considered by the staff during the development of their draft supplemental EIS that they were working on at that time. Although we never got to the point of issuance, we still have all of that information.

Given the amount of time that's passed

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since that scoping process was conducted, we realize that some of your comments may be different. Some may still be the same. This is an opportunity to provide new comments if you wish to do so, but I just wanted to touch on this briefly because we haven't forgotten that you've given us comments on this license renewal previously, and any applicable comments will be carried forward into this review. Next slide, please?

Here are the important milestones that the environmental review process will follow. If you have environmental scoping comments you'd like to submit outside of today's meeting, you have until February 23 to do so.

For those located near the plant, please note that there is an additional meeting opportunity in person at the Embassy Suites in San Luis Obispo next Thursday, February 8. That meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. Based on our current schedule, we plan to issue a draft environmental impact statement for public comment by October of this year.

This is another way you could be involved in the process. Members of the public will have an opportunity to provide comments on that draft supplemental environmental impact statement. While

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this slide lists milestones for the environmental review and opportunities for public involvement, the safety review will be performed on a parallel schedule to support that license renewal decision in August 2025. Next slide, please.

This slide identifies the primary points of contact within the NRC for license renewal of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant. In addition to Brian and myself, the other individual listed here is Sam Lee. He's a Senior Project Manager who is the current Operating Reactor Project Manager for Diablo Canyon. Next slide?

For those members of the public who may be local to Diablo Canyon, the San Luis Obispo Library has agreed to make the license renewal application available for public inspection. If you want to see a hard copy version, they have it there. The draft EIS will also be available at this library when it is published for comment. In addition, these documents will be on the NRC website at the link shown on this slide. Next slide?

As mentioned earlier, the most important piece of today's meeting is to receive any comments that you have on the scope of the environmental

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review. Here are some ways you can submit your comments for our environmental review. You could provide written comments by mail to the NRC at the address provided on this slide.

The fastest way to get your written comments before us is to submit them electronically either through regulations.gov as indicated on the slide or by emailing diablo canyon environmental@nrc.gov. They all go to the same place, and all comments received either during these meetings or through these methods on the slide, they'll all count the same.

They'll all be reviewed by our technical experts and given the same consideration in our review, and they will all be included in our scoping summary document, scoping summary report that we issue prior to the draft supplemental environmental impact statement.

Comments will be accepted through February 23, so you still have plenty of time to submit them after this meeting. This concludes the NRC overview of the license renewal process and I'd like to turn things back over to Brett.

MR. KLUKAN: All right, thank you very

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much, Kim, and thank you very much, Brian. Again, we are here now to gather information to prepare an environmental impact statement to help us evaluate the environmental impacts for the potential license for the operating, or the renewal of the operating license for Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2, and we're hoping to hear from you this afternoon scoping comments related to areas covered by the environmental review.

To go over the process again, and some of you have already clearly read this slide in advance of me talking about it, for those of you on Teams, if you'd like to offer a comment, a scoping comment, please raise your hand using the little function that looks like this hand. Hit that.

For those of you on the phone, please press *5. Again, that's *5, and then when I call on you, for those of you on the phone, you will have to unmute yourself, and that you would do by hitting *6.

Again, that is *6. So, it's *5 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute yourself.

And again, for the sake of the transcript and to make our court reporter's life easier, I would really ask that at the beginning right when you are starting your comment and you've confirmed that we can

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hear you, please state your name and any affiliation.

That really helps us keep track of who is saying what during the meeting.

So, again, if you're having any trouble using Teams, there's always the backup bridge line. This information is on the screen right now. If for whatever reason you can't get into Teams, I would suggest that you try the backup bridge line or you go into device settings.

And again, if you're having trouble with that, I could try to help you out a little bit via the chat, but again, I would really recommend if Teams doesn't work for you, just use the backup bridge line.

We almost never have any problems with that.

And again, we will go back to that for summary and closing, but I'll leave this up for right now just in case we have any problems come up with it.

And so, with that, it looks like a number of you have already raised your hands, some 17 in total. I'm going to ask that you try to keep your comments to roughly around three minutes if you wouldn't mind. That way, we can make sure that we have room or time enough for everyone to offer comments.

Now again, as Kim mentioned, there are

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plenty of other ways for you to offer your comments, your environmental scoping comments to the NRC outside of this meeting. You can attend the meeting next week, you can offer them in the ways that she mentioned, by mail, via the website, via email or whatnot.

So, hopefully though, we will get to everyone who has raised their hand today. So, without any further ado, I'm simply going to go in the order in which I see the hands are raised. Teams gives me a count of who raised their hands first.

And so, without any further ado, I'm going to turn to Andy Pease. I'm going to allow your microphone. Feel free to unmute yourself whenever you are ready, and then state your name and any affiliation.

MS. PEASE: Great, thank you so much. I am Andy Pease. I'm a Councilmember for the City of San Luis Obispo. I appreciate this opportunity today and I'm speaking as an individual. I'm speaking in support of the carbon emissions reduction opportunity of the power plant. Our community is really committed to environmental stewardship. We're deeply concerned about climate change and we have ambitious goals for

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the entire city to be carbon neutral by 2035.

So, our strategies include energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, carbon sequestration, and most importantly, electrification of our vehicles and our buildings. Electrification is central to moving away from fossil fuel emissions, but only if the electricity comes from clean energy.

So, the community, we are investing in onsite and regional renewable energy systems and energy storage. We're thrilled with California's commitment to a clean power grid. I think we'll get there, but we're not there yet.

I think the impacts of climate change are here and they're devastating, and keeping Diablo Canyon open for another five years will help bridge that gap for reducing carbon emissions and achieving carbon neutrality. Thank you so much for your environmental review of the project.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us for this meeting today and as well for offering your comments. We will next turn to Joshua Boswell. Joshua, I am going to allow your microphone.

Please feel free to unmute yourself and state any affiliation before you begin your comments.

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MR. BOSWELL: Good morning. Thank you, Brett. My name is Josh Boswell. I am the VP of Policy and Economic Development at REACH. We are a regional economic impact organization with a mission to support economic planning and unlock economic opportunity for San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

We have spent the last few years deeply involved in work related to Diablo Canyon's future, engaging with a broad base of community partners spanning private sector, government, nonprofit, and tribal representatives.

We have coordinated community efforts to plan for the long-term future of the plant's assets to ensure economic stability and position the Central Coast to lead as our state evolves its energy ecosystem, including the West Coast's first offshore wind developments taking place off our coast.

This work resulted in a joint vision for fostering a clean tech innovation park at Parcel P, which was endorsed by our federal, state, and local elected officials and other stakeholders.

We have since collaborated closely with the state tribal representatives, the local land

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conservancy, and Cal Poly to translate this vision in the parallel work of conserving surrounding lands into a concrete plan of action that can coexist with continued plant operations.

We support extended operations under the timeline and provisions of SB 846, the preservation of 1,500 good-paying jobs, as well as critical new resources for planning for clean energy innovation, conservation, and tribal celebration will provide a boost to our regional economy and a bridge to our future vision.

The NRC license renewal process takes place in parallel with these wider regional, state, and federal planning efforts. The pledge for our region's future requires clarity and certainty regarding Diablo Canyon's operations, as well as open and ongoing communication and collaboration to ensure a successful transition, while honoring our community commitment to clean energy, land conservation, and tribal celebration.

We believe we can work together to the shared goal of a sustainable, diverse, and thriving Central Coast. Thank you for your work and thank you for your consideration today.

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MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for attending the meeting and for offering your comments.

Next, we will turn to Jim Stewart. Jim Stewart, I have allowed your microphone. Whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself and state any affiliation.

Jim, you have to unmute yourself as well.

So, you should see at the top of your screen a little icon that says microphone. Hit that and that should unmute you, because I can allow your microphone, but I can't actually unmute you.

So, again, at the top of your screen, Jim, you should see a row of icons. It says camera, microphone, share, or mic. Hit that microphone and that should allow you to unmute yourself. If not, try calling back into the bridge line.

We are going to, just for the sake of time, we will come back to you, Jim, or check in with you to make sure you get your comment captured, but next we're going to turn to Alice McNally. So, I'm going to allow your microphone. Whenever you are ready, Alice, please feel free to unmute yourself and state any affiliation.

(Pause.)

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MR. KLUKAN: Okay, Alice, again, Alice or Jim, if you're having trouble using the mic function, it's at the top of the screen. It's a little microphone. It's next to the camera, right in the middle between the camera and the share button. Hit that if you're using the app. If it's a web browser, it might be towards the bottom of the screen.

But again, for the sake of time, again, we will come back to you. We're going to go to Eric Greening. Eric Greening, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to state your name and any affiliation, and begin whenever you are ready.

(Pause.)

MR. KLUKAN: Kim or Brian, could you just say something just to make sure we're not having troubles with the audio?

MR. HARRIS: Yes.

MS. CONWAY: Yeah, we can hear you, Brett.

MR. HARRIS: Yeah.

MR. KLUKAN: All right, great.

MR. HARRIS: Loud and clear.

MR. KLUKAN: We are now going to go to Randy Altergott. And Jim, Alice, and Eric, we will come back to you. Again, try using the bridge line

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if, for whatever reason, you can't unmute yourselves, but Randy Altergott, we are going to turn to you next.

I'm going to unmute you, or allow your microphone. Again, you have to unmute yourself and then begin your comment.

MR. ALTERGOTT: Thank you, Brett. I think you can hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you, good, oh, great.

MR. ALTERGOTT: Well, thank you for the opportunity.

MR. KLUKAN: All right, please begin.

MR. ALTERGOTT: My name is Randy Altergott and I am a resident of Guadalupe, California, where my wife and I both live and also operate a small business. I am voicing my support for the continued operation of the Diablo Canyon plant.

And for me, there's a few topics I'd like to address, but first of all, as has been previously mentioned, I think it's vital that we continue to operate the plant because it does not produce greenhouse gases, and we're all in favor, well, you know, I'm also in favor of reducing the greenhouse gases and helping to mitigate the effects of climate

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change.

I believe it's essential because there currently is not enough renewable energy available to replace what the plant puts out, plus the plant is available to produce energy 24 hours a day, and aside from hydro, none of the other renewable types of energy are available, only the one they're producing.

So, the other thing I'd like to say is that in Guadalupe, we're kind of a poorer community. The continued operation of Diablo Canyon would not impact our electricity rates to a certain extent because I believe, you know, because it's been around for quite a while, it's mostly paid for.

So, as far as rates from PG&E, it would mainly just be continued maintenance and operation. They don't have to build another plant. So, and because, again, I live in a poorer community, this is essential for us to have some rate stability and not have volatility in our electric rate structure, because that helps our entire community.

Lastly, I think, I would like to say that, you know, there are some continued high-paying jobs that are available there. It also not only helps our community, but the Central Coast overall, and I just

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think it's vital that this plant be allowed to continue operation for whatever the renewable time is, and if it's 20 years, that's fine with me.

I don't have any safety concerns. There haven't been any safety issues with the plant in its entire operation that I'm aware of, and, you know, I fully trust that PG&E can continue to operate in a safe manner. So, that's all I have, but again, my wife and I both support the continued operation of Diablo Canyon.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for participating in the meeting today and for offering your comments. We very much appreciate it. We're going to try again, Randy, Alice, and Eric. So, I am going to make you presenters, try it that way and then see if that works for you.

So, Jim, Alice, or Eric, please feel free.

Hopefully, we don't all unmute at the same time, but try unmuting yourselves again now. I've made you presenters. Hopefully that -- sometimes that fixes it if we're having any technical issues. All right, I'm not seeing it.

Again, we will come back to you later. So, next we're going to go to Jim Dantona. Jim

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Dantona, whenever you are ready, I have allowed your microphone. Please state your name, any affiliation, and begin whenever you are ready.

MR. DANTONA: Good morning from the West Coast, Jim Dantona, President and CEO for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce speaking on behalf of the Chamber and its 1,200 members, the largest business voice on the Central Coast. We're here -- I want to speak in support of the extension.

And thinking about the scoping meeting specifically, we're in -- obviously, looking at the electrification of California specifically and our region, and the stabilization of our grid is most important, and Diablo Canyon provides that stable output of power for us.

If that were to go away, the stability of the grid would have to likely be backfilled with natural gas peaker plants off in other states, other places. We would put greater impact on our regional and environment of our country.

So, we would ask that, as part of that scoping, to compare what it would take in natural gas terms to replace the amazing power that's coming out of the Diablo Power Plant, that is coming out

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greenhouse gas-free energy at that huge amount.

Additionally, one of those things that we'd love you to consider is the economic impacts that would come as part of this, certainly with the job production that is there, amazing jobs that are head-of-household jobs that are there, but also as spoken by the previous speaker, the residents. When you have to buy energy off the other site, some of the cheapest power being created is being created right there out of Diablo Canyon.

The Diablo Canyon Power Plant has had a safe operation for nearly 40 years, and their work to protect that facility and our community has been amazing, so I believe in the long-term after this scoping, that you should continue operation of that. I appreciate your time, Brett, and the NRC folks, and all of the staff participating today. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us today and for offering your comments, so thank you very much. Next, we will turn to Madison Schroder. Madison, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself, state your name and any affiliation, and begin whenever you are ready.

And again, Madison, you will need to -- it

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looks like your microphone is enabled, but you're still muted, so you'll need to touch or hit the microphone button on your either web browser or your Teams window.

All right, Madison, tell you what, we will come back to you. In the meantime, while we're going onto James Hopf, H-O-P-F, I will allow your microphone. So, whenever you are ready, James, please feel free to begin by stating your name and any affiliation, and then Madison, we'll come back to you.

So, James, whenever you're ready.

MR. HOPF: Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you.

MR. HOPF: Okay, hi, my name is James Hopf. I'm with Generation Atomic, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to comment today.

Any objective environmental impact evaluation would conclude that extended operation of Diablo Canyon would have a large positive environmental impact if the evaluated alternatives are correctly defined. The California government's own experts have testified that the net effect of closing Diablo Canyon would be its replacement with gas generation.

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Scientific consensus is that natural gas generation's environmental impacts in terms of both public health and the climate are about 100 times worse than those of nuclear power. Thus, if gas generation is the alternative, the conclusion of the EIS would be clear.

Some try to argue that the plan is to replace Diablo with offshore wind as opposed to gas generation, and that therefore, the EIS should compare the environmental impacts of Diablo to those of offshore wind. There are several problems with this notion.

The general flaw is that new renewable generation used to replace also non-emitting nuclear could have been used to replace fossil generation instead. California still gets almost half of its power from gas, so there is an ample amount of fossil generation to replace. Thus, replacing Diablo with wind would amount to a decision to keep gas instead of keeping nuclear, the net effect still being replacement of Diablo with gas.

Stated another way, it's incorrect to assume that extending Diablo's operation would prevent wind power from being developed in the region. Thus,

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wind power can be developed anyway, and can be used to replace fossil generation instead. That's the real alternative.

Some say that keeping Diablo running will prevent offshore wind development because the wind farms will need to use Diablo's transmission infrastructure. Even if that were true, Diablo's power lines would only allow an equivalent amount of wind power capacity.

Thus, the wind farms would only be replacing Diablo's generation some of the time. The net result would effectively be the replacement of Diablo with some mixture of wind and gas generation. That would increase fossil fuel use and would clearly have a negative net environmental impact.

Fortunately, grid constraints will not interfere with local wind power development even if Diablo remains in operation. There is ample transmission infrastructure at the Morro Bay fossil plant. The offshore wind farms could be located there and be used to replace fossil generation instead.

In summary, if they close Diablo and use its transmission lines, the net environmental impact will be clearly negative due to increased gas use. If

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they use other transmission lines in Morro Bay, there will be no need to close Diablo and the wind can be used to replace gas instead.

For what it's worth, it's not even clear that offshore wind would have a lower environmental impact than continued operation of Diablo. Scientific bodies have concluded that nuclear and wind have similar climate and public health impact. It's also not clear that building and operating offshore wind farms would have a smaller impact on the local coastal ecosystems than continued operation of Diablo would. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much. We very much appreciate you attending the meeting today and for offering your comments. I think I saw in the chat, Madison, that you are able to unmute yourself, so whenever you're ready, please feel free to do so and begin your comments.

MS. SCHRODER: Great, thank you. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we absolutely can.

MS. SCHRODER: Great, great, that's awesome. Yeah, the microphone just lagged a little bit. I think it just took a second.

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Hello, my name is Madison Schroder and I'm calling in representing Generation Atomic. We are a nonprofit advocating for future and existing nuclear power to meet the needs of people and the planet. I want to first and foremost thank the NRC for allowing public comment throughout this process, and I'll keep my comments short.

I'm really grateful to be here today to make comments on the EIS for Diablo Canyon. We have advocated for the continued operation of Diablo Canyon for several years, and it's really exciting to be here in this capacity. Diablo Canyon is truly a powerhouse in its contribution to carbon-free power, economic benefits to the area, and limited land use that allows much of California to remain wild.

Now, this is not my first environmental impact statement hearing, and thus, I am familiar with the process and confident that the NRC will conduct a thorough review that, in addition to examining the benefits of the facility to the environment, it will also examine the potential detrimental effects of closing down Diablo Canyon, including increases in carbon emissions and loss of land.

Therefore, I want to thank the NRC once

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again for their inclusion of the public in this process, and express my strong support for Diablo Canyon, and I look forward to the EIS hearing in October. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, Madison, thank you very much, and I'm glad we were able to resolve those lag technical issues. So, Alice, it looks like, McNally, granted, you're at the end of line, but you were at the front of it before you lowered your hand, so I'm going to unmute you, Alice, or allow your microphone, Alice McNally.

So, Alice, see if you can find that microphone picture on your screen, and if you can, unmute yourself. If not, then I would suggest calling in via the bridge line. All right, Alice, we will figure this out one way or another.

So, next up, we will turn to Mayor Jenelle, and unfortunately, your name is getting cut off. So, Mayor Jenelle, whenever you are ready, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free, whenever you're ready, just state your name and any affiliation.

MAYOR OSBORNE: Good morning, it's Mayor Jenelle Osborne for the City of Lompoc, and while I'll

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be speaking as a resident, I think it's important to understand that, like Guadalupe, we are just down the road on the coast from Diablo, and as a result, have always had concerns about the safety, but I have had the pleasure of touring the facility and have to say that it is probably one of the most secure plants I've ever been to. We also have a federal prison in Lompoc and the security at Diablo is much higher than the security has ever been at the local federal prison.

Secondly, we're a municipal power, and as a result, you would think that we wouldn't want or care about what PG&E was doing, but we recognize that Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant provides nearly ten percent of the state's electrical energy, and Lompoc is utilizing that transmission line to get our power.

We also have a part ownership in the Lodi Energy Center, which is a natural gas fast-start turbine, and if Diablo were to go offline, we would have to fast-start that turbine more often to support not only our own municipal utilities that are members of the organization that own it, but to help assist with the entire grid, and that is greenhouse gases as we all know.

So, I'm here supporting the application

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for the renewal for the 20 years, and hope that the state realizes that it will take more than just five years in order to transition to the additional green energy that they're looking to produce, but that ultimately, nuclear is part of that package.

It is green energy, and we need to utilize it as a result of the plant already having such a strong history of being a safe plant, having been a steward of the local environment, teeming with amazing wildlife, and that we, as a community, need to support it, and that's what I'm here to support is Diablo's renewal. Thank you for the time.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for attending this meeting and for offering your comments.

We very much appreciate it. So, Eric, we're going to try you again, Eric Greening. Eric, are you able to unmute yourself maybe? All right, Eric, we will come back to you.

Next, we are going to go to Chris Bausch.

Chris Bausch, I have allowed your microphone. Whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation. And again, we are looking for Chris Bausch.

MR. BAUSCH: Can you hear me now?

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MR. KLUKAN: Yes, yes, we can, absolutely.

MR. BAUSCH: Excellent, thank you. My name is Chris Bausch. I'm a city councilmember for the City of Paso Robles, and I am speaking today as a private citizen in favor of relicensing due to the following benefits Diablo Canyon Power Plant provides the community.

Diablo Canyon provides clean, reliable, and safe power that is more affordable than any other sources. Diablo Canyon provides an unparalleled economic benefit, including high-paying head-of-household jobs, the loss of which would be devastating to San Luis Obispo County.

I also believe that the best way to address climate change is clean energy. We need more nuclear power, not less. Diablo Canyon land is beautiful. PG&E does a great job of taking care of the land and providing excellent stewardship of the amazing marine wildlife area.

I have been to the plant and have seen that it is teeming with marine life. There are sea lions, otters, and birds everywhere. In short, any alternative is far less beneficial. Please extend Diablo Canyon's license for the full 20 years. Thank

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you, NRC, for hosting this meeting.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for participating today and for offering your comments. Again, we very much appreciate it. Next, we will turn to Gary Kirkland. Gary Kirkland, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and affiliation before you begin. Thank you.

MR. KIRKLAND: Hi, Gary Kirkland, resident of Atascadero, California, and I'm affiliated with the Libertarian Party. I'm here to support the relicensing of Diablo Canyon Units 1 and 2, but I'm also here to urge the NRC to get PG&E to build more nuclear power plants.

It's plumbed, according to the people I've talked to out there, and I have also toured it. It's very safe. They could build four more nuclear power plants out there so that California will have plenty of electricity.

So, I'm urging you, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to urge PG&E to build more power plants out there and license them also. They can also build ones that are more modern than the current ones that are already out there, and extend the nuclear power

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plant operation and its clean energy -- that's my wife who just yelled at me -- and so, I also want to do that.

For those of you who are afraid of radiation, be thankful that you live here and not in outer space or down deep in the ground, which are both highly radioactive places, and this is the safest place you can be when it comes to nuclear radiation.

Also, I propose that we use, launch like SpaceX has done, to launch any waste that's left over into orbit and into the sun where it will just disappear. PG&E has done a great job safely operating it and we should keep it going. And also, the fact that the alternatives to nuclear power are worse environmentally than Diablo Canyon is. Thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us today and for offering your comments. We very much appreciate it. Next, we will turn to John Peschong. John Peschong, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you are ready.

MR. PESCHONG: Thank you. Hopefully you can hear me.

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MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can, great.

MR. PESCHONG: My name is John Peschong. I'm First District Supervisor for San Luis Obispo County here in California. For those of you on the East Coast, that's like a county commissioner is what you would call them.

I wanted to just say that PG&E is the largest private employer in San Luis Obispo County. They create a really good number of head-of-household jobs. These are high-paying jobs that can support a family.

All of the vendors that PG&E worked with to operate the plant, they create economic, a multiplier in our community. And we just completed that -- PG&E just completed a refueling outage, which brought a lot of temporary workers into the county, and that creates, again, major economic impact.

So, I would just ask the question, why would we get rid of a safe, clean, reliable power plant that is California's biggest source of clean energy, and San Luis Obispo County's biggest source of high-paying head-of-household jobs? I would like to ask you to please extend the license for 20 years, and I'd like to thank the NRC for the opportunity to

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speak.

MR. KLUKAN: Great, thank you so much. We really appreciate you joining us today and for offering your comments, as we appreciate everyone who has commented thus far.

Next, we are going to turn to Peter Bird.

Peter Bird, whenever you are ready, I've allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation before you begin. Thank you.

DR. BIRD: Good morning, can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can. Thank you.

DR. BIRD: My name is Peter Bird. I'm a Professor Emeritus at the University of California Los Angeles. My research specialties are ongoing tectonic deformation and the resulting seismic hazard.

As a consultant to the San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace, I have reviewed the 2015 seismic source characterization for Diablo Canyon that was created by Pacific Gas and Electric. As I detailed in written testimony to both the NRC and the California Public Utilities Commission last year, I consider the 2015 seismic source characterization to be inadequate and biased, substantially underestimating the true

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seismic hazard.

Now, it is possible, but not certain, that these deficiencies will be corrected in the current SSHAC Level 1 update to the seismic source characterization which is underway at PG&E. Notably, this new study is to receive outside review by three University of California faculty who are members of the UC Garrick Institute for Risk Sciences.

So, my point today is procedural. NRC should not reach any decision, even a tentative decision, on license renewal for Diablo Canyon until they have this new seismic hazard study in hand and also have the outside reviews, and also until the NRC staff have had adequate time to consider the implications of seismic hazard, which is greater than we previously thought.

It's hard to imagine any environmental impact greater than a catastrophic plant accident involving loss of cooling and loss of containment, and in my view, the chances of such an accident have been underestimated by several orders of magnitude. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for attending the meeting and for offering your comments.

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We will next turn to Andrew Mauer. Andrew Mauer, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation whenever you are ready.

MR. MAUER: Thanks, Brett. My name is Andrew Mauer. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can. Thank you.

MR. MAUER: Okay, perfect. As I said, my name is Andrew Mauer, and I'm the Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs at the Nuclear Energy Institute. The Nuclear Energy Institute is the policy organization of the nuclear technologies industry. PG&E has been a longtime member of our organization, and we are pleased that the value they provide to their community is being recognized.

Continued operation of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant ensures that residents will receive the affordable and reliable clean energy that nuclear power provides as the state progresses toward its carbon reduction goals.

PG&E have been exemplary stewards of the environment, and extending their operation is the right thing to do, and it mirrors actions we have seen around the country and around the world as governments

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recognize the critical role nuclear plays in reaching our climate goals. So, I respectfully request that you consider these comments in your review, and thank you for the opportunity to comment.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us today and for offering your comments. Next, we will turn to Sheila Baker. Sheila, I have enabled your microphone, so whenever you are ready, please feel free to state your name and any affiliation and begin.

MS. BAKER: Hello. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can. Thank you.

MS. BAKER: Okay. Thank you so much. I'm Sheila Baker, I live in Sonoma County. We have a great aggregate -- community aggregate for renewable energy, and we are really happy that we can look forward to a renewable energy future.

I'm against the renewal of the license for PG&E for several reasons. There are still lawsuits being settled by PG&E, I think Zogg is the latest. Tubbs fire was absolutely devastating here in this county. And the Camp Fire, Paradise, I mean, just so many fires, and PG&E seem to be involved in all of them and paying out money for it. And really kind of

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considered a felon, I do believe.

I think that one word that I'm not hearing -- first of all, I'm also against sending nuclear waste to space -- no, let's don't do that -- or, digging a great big hole in planet earth to bury it. There's no permanent solution for nuclear waste. The interim sites are being opposed in the states that they are destined for.

And I want to know if we have considered the word conservation? Conservation of energy. Turning the lights off, not using so much energy. I believe that renewable has a strong future for us, and that it would supply all our energy needs, and that renewable energy is the only clean energy. Nuclear power is very much not. Radioactive particles are not clean. Thank you so much.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for joining us today and for offering your comments. Next, we will turn to Bruce Severance.

Bruce Severance, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to begin whenever you are ready by stating your name and any affiliation.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Again, that is Bruce

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Severance.

MR. SEVERANCE: Are you able to hear me now?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can. Great.

MR. SEVERANCE: Okay. Yeah, I think I hit the mic button at the same time that you unmuted me.

My name is Bruce Severance, I'm a regulatory compliance engineer, a member of the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel, but I speak today representing only my own opinions.

People on this call and in these comments seem to be siloed for or against. I am very strongly in favor of keeping Unit Two open for ten years, and closing Unit One immediately. Because, I have reviewed the history of RPV embrittlement data and it appears to me that all three of the capsule tests that have been performed on Unit One show indication that it's going to reach maximum and embrittlement allowed by regulation by 2024.

The only way that PG&E is able to apply for relicensing of the plant is to argue that all of their prior hard science is invalid. So, the current basis for their safety -- their claims of safety on Unit One, are that all of their previous science, all

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their previous uncertainty calculations and standard deviations, all of that is thrown out on the basis of two data points. Which, originally they said were fine, but when they re-examined them in 2003 using new best fit curves, suddenly they interpreted them as not fitting within the standard deviations allowed.

Notably, the most limiting weld material in the plant, weld heat number 27204 -- specifically, as it is applied to weld number 3-442c in the beltline region of the reactor core vessel -- is recognized as being the most embrittled component and limiting material in the plant. And all three of the RTPTS values that were previously predicted for that material fell within 251 degrees Fahrenheit and 258 degrees Fahrenheit. Which is the temperature at which that material would begin to show fast fracture characteristics rather than ductile characteristics, and an inclination towards embrittlement and shattering.

So, the regulatory threshold is 270. So, we're -- by 2024, we're supposed to be within five or six percent -- 2021 originally -- we're supposed to be within five or six percent of maximum embrittlement. When the NRC granted a 37-month extension on Unit One

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in 2006, PG&E reextrapolated those figures and came up with a new RTPTS figure of 258.7 degrees. So, that's within four percent of maximum embrittlement by 2024.

We're there now. How could we possibly have another 20 years? The only way we could get another 20 years, or represent that we have another 20 years, is to invalidate all of that data. Which is what they have attempted to do.

My sense is that, when we're talking about safety review, we must consider the manner in which PG&E is invalidating its own hard science, only to adopt data that falls outside of their previous study uncertainty ranges.

Having read over 4,000 pages, it does not appear that the NRC has been asking the right question. Has PG&E inappropriately disqualified their own stress test data? And are they operating within the guidelines of RG 1.99 and 10 CFR 5061?

I have read those in detail, I've published several papers in conjunction with Dr. Digby Macdonald at Berkeley. But, this paper is on my own and I'm going to be submitting it to the DCISC today, and will be submitting a copy to the NRC. And I ask you to look carefully at the criteria, specifically in

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the 1995 update to 10 CFR 5061.

I will send you a copy of it. It seems to be something that has been overlooked. It elevates RG 1.99 to -- a regulatory guide -- to the level of a regulatory requirement and it elaborates very specifically on the five criteria for credibility in that document, which PG&E is using to invalidate their own data.

It also clarifies the criteria by which PG&E would be allowed to use adopted data from similar plants. And that criteria very specifically states that they must demonstrate the operational similarities, the metallurgical similarities, and a fairly wide range of variables that I don't find documentation for in the NRC docket history.

So, my concern is they've kind of flown under the radar with something that's really quite non-conforming.

In short, SV-846 requires study of generation alternatives. I strongly support that. I think we haven't looked closely enough at energy efficiency and how quickly we could implement that.

I do believe we should keep Unit Two operating for ten years, spend half the money bringing

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the plant up to operational conformance, and only enable one reactor to continue operating for twice as long rather than two reactors for half the time. When one is so clearly questionable.

And the NRC really should be taking a very hard look at this. I've been on tours of the plant, I also was very impressed with how PG&E has run things out there. I think they have a tremendous staff and their hearts are in the right place. We all collectively as a society, as a community, need to make the best decision. That entails reasonable risks both in terms of fiduciary duty to shareholders, to citizens.

There's \$24,000,000,000 worth of real estate in the region that would be affected if that reactor vessel was breached. There's no backup system for the reactor vessel. There's multiple backup systems for just about everything else in the plant.

So, those who are familiar with the engineering know that all of the engineers who design these things are all planning for, you know, the pressurized thermal shock scenario. Where you've got a crack in a pipe, some water's leaking, the emergency coolant system is automatically dumping cold water

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back into the reactor to keep it controlled.

If that crack is big enough and the water is cold enough -- because it's stored in outdoor tanks -- and, you know, enough of that water hits the reactor and the reactor happens to be embrittled to a certain level, we've got a situation where the hundreds or thousands of hairline cracks and voids that occur in the steel lattice, the atomic fabric of the plant, can suddenly rupture.

And this is known science, this is what everybody's planning for. So, that, in my mind, is the most critical variable that the public needs to focus on. And we can't just all be rosy-eyed about the jobs, the opportunity, and everything else.

We're going to create jobs with offshore wind. If we took Unit One offline, we would be removing barriers to allowing offshore wind to become a whole new industry that would, you know, move into town and provide jobs for this community.

So, you know, you look -- historically, when the automobile was invented, the people who objected the most to it were the guys that were shoveling manure off the streets. There's a certain logic to that. We have to be willing to embrace the

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change that's necessary, and that involves looking at all the possibilities, all the generation alternatives that can meet whatever grid shortfalls we may have. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for joining us and for offering your comments. Next, we will turn to Robert Robert.

Robert, whenever you are ready please feel free to -- let me allow your microphone -- please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Again, Robert, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free, whenever you're ready, to unmute yourself and then state your name and any affiliation.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: All right. Robert, unfortunately -- saying mic not allowed. I have promoted you, Robert, to a presenter. So, that should --

MR. ROBERT: Hello?

MR. KLUKAN: There you go. Yes, we can hear you.

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MR. ROBERT: Yeah, there's a little more to it than just unclicking the mic. You have to hit some buttons on the computer. But, thank you. Thank you for putting on this forum. And appreciate everyone involved.

Good morning. My name is Robert Robert, Mayor Pro Tem of Grover Beach, speaking as an individual on the support of keeping the Diablo Canyon Power Plant open.

The DCPD stands as California's largest clean energy producer, contributing over 15 percent to the state's clean energy. If DCPD were to go offline the question arises, can we replace it without resorting to greenhouse gases?

Currently, renewable energy isn't significantly equipped for this task. Losing nine percent of California's electrical production, which powers over 3,000,000 homes, raises concerns about reliability.

While solar panels could generate a similar amount -- which would require nine square miles of solar panels -- they are, however, limited to daylight hours, and may not meet demand during hot days as reflected in Flex Alerts. Cutting off our

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primary power source seems counterintuitive.

Highlighting the plant's almost 40-year record of safe and reliable operations, backed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's strong safety oversight, reinforces the argument for maintaining the plant's notably security and strategic earthquake-resistant location add to its safety credentials.

Emphasizing the environmental benefits, Diablo plays a critical role in addressing climate change. Complemented by its aesthetically pleasing surroundings and thriving marine wildlife, affordability is a key concern. With electricity bills rising, nuclear energy emerges as the most cost-effective clean option, especially considering the substantial initial investment in building the plant.

Examining the local economic impact, PG&E, the plant's operator, is the largest private employer in San Luis Obispo County, creating high paying jobs and fostering economic growth through vendor partnerships. The recent refueling outage brought temporary workers, further boosting the local economy.

Looking ahead, with ambitious goals like transition to electric cars by 2035 and eliminating gas appliances, the demand for electricity is set to

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surge. Maintaining DCPP becomes imperative for California's 100 percent clean energy goal.

Considering it's proven safety, reliability, and significant contribution to the state's clean energy supply, I urge you to keep the Diablo Canyon Power Plant open. Thank you for your time and consideration in this important decision.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for for joining us today and for offering your comments. Next, we're going to turn to Guido Nunez.

I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to, whenever you're ready, unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation.

MR. NUNEZ: Good morning. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes.

MR. NUNEZ: Good morning. My name is Guido Nunez, I am a researcher and data scientist for the Anthropocene Institute, but I'm talking as a private citizen here. I'm a resident of San Francisco, California and I am speaking in support of keeping Diablo open.

Even if I'm a data scientist these days, my original background is a biologist. And something

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that I would like to get on the record, and to ask the NRC, is not to focus just on the possible risks of keeping Diablo open, but also to counterweight that with what will happen if it closes and it's substituted with something else.

I know that a familiar argument against Diablo Canyon is about the marine larvae and/or life that is -- sea life that is affected by the cooling system of the plant, and the intake of the water.

While there is a small impact there, we must remember also that more than 90-95 percent of the fish larvae die anyway. Natural circumstances, that's just the way it is. We also need to counter, if you open -- if you start building offshore wind there, what is the impact of that compared to the continued operation of Diablo?

Because, from what I have seen, nuclear energy is uniquely singled out in terms of risks. And similar risks, or way larger risks in all sorts of energies, are not considered. So, I want to make sure that this is on the record. It's not enough just to consider the risks for nature preservation of keeping Diablo open -- what's the impact? It's also necessary to consider what is the impact of alternative course

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of action.

And I also want to bring up that I hear talking about energy conservation. Energy conservation, it's not even a single percentage point of our problems here in state. We're talking about electrifying completely our transportation sector. We're going to require a lot more power for that.

And I also want to remind everyone here that, while we like to think ourselves as a very green state, we do have a lot of power that comes from out of state. And in some cases, all the way from Utah from a coal plant, Intermountain Power. And nobody's talking about shutting this off, shutting this down. But, we're here discussing that we should shut down Diablo Canyon or not, and I think that we all need to think about this. Thank you very much for your time.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us and for offering your comments today. Next, we're going to turn to Marty Brown.

Marty, whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Marty, I have enabled your

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microphone. Sometimes there's a little bit of a delay, but you should be able to unmute yourself now.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Let me try making you a presenter. Again, Marty, there's -- hopefully there's a little microphone emblem somewhere on your screen, if you're using the browser and actual Team app. Just click on that and you should, hopefully, be able to unmute yourself.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: All right. Marty, we will come back to you. I apologize, but we will turn to -- for the sake of time -- Jocelyn Brennan.

I'm going to allow your microphone. Whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, and state your name and any affiliation. Again, that is Jocelyn Brennan.

MS. BRENNAN: Hi there. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can. Thank you.

MS. BRENNAN: Okay, great. Thank you so much. I'm Jocelyn Brennan, I'm a 30-year resident of San Luis Obispo County and I work closely with housing developers and offshore wind developer.

The indispensable role of Diablo Canyon

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Power Plant in our state's energy landscape cannot be understated.

First and foremost, Diablo stands as California's largest clean energy producer, contributing over 15 percent of the state's clean energy. And the question we face is critical, if Diablo goes offline, how will we replace this immense clean energy output?

Given that renewable energy sources are not yet able to meet our demands fully, the likely alternative would involve a regression to energy sources that emit greenhouse gases, contradicting our goals.

The reliability of our electricity supply is another paramount concern. Diablo contributes nine percent of California's electricity production, powering 3,000,000 homes. In a state already facing Flex Alerts on hot days due to power shortages, the loss of Diablo's substantial and steady energy supply would be a severe blow.

Environmental considerations. Nuclear energy is a potent tool against climate change, and not only generates clean energy but also resides on a beautifully maintained land, surrounded by thriving

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marine life.

Personal observations and reports. Again, I live here and I see the sea lions, the otters, and the various bird species and I have seen firsthand PG&E's commitment to the environmental stewardship of their plant.

With clean energy being a priority, yet often coming with a high price tag, nuclear energy presents an affordable option. The economic implications for our area for Diablo to extend far beyond its gates, are the largest private employer in San Luis Obispo County, as was stated. They support head-of-household jobs that are crucial for our community.

The economic effect, again, can't be understated. And also, when you take into consideration refueling outages, they generate even more economic benefits.

The continued use of Diablo is not just a matter of energy policy, but a lynchpin in our state's pursuit of clean energy, economic stability, and community well-being. As we navigate the challenges of climate change and energy reliability, let's lean on proven solutions like Diablo.

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As the other sources of energy, such as offshore wind and battery storage, go through the development process, please support the relicensing and continued operations of Diablo Power Plant. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much. Thank you for attending this meeting today, and for offering your comments.

It looks like, if I am correct -- Marty, it looks like you've been able to unmute yourself. So, Marty Brown, why don't we turn to you next?

MS. BROWN: Yes, can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you.

MS. BROWN: Great. Thank you so much. Good afternoon.

I am concerned about the cost of keeping Diablo canyon Nuclear Plant running beyond the previously agreed upon closure dates.

Financial costs for rate-payers, and for goods and services, around the state will rise exponentially with no guardrails. Billions of dollars are on the table, plus utility taxes that would increase our bills three times the national average.

More affordable clean energy will be

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crowded out by Diablo Canyon being kept online. As a rate-payer here for over 65 years, I strenuously object. I want my energy dollars to support clean power sources, not nuclear waste generation in a seismically criss-crossed area not far from the San Andreas Fault.

Please retire the 1970s reactors and replaced them with renewable energy sources, as approved by the CPUC in 2018. Thank you for listening.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much, Marty. And I'm glad we were able to connect with you during the meeting.

Alice, it looks like you were unable -- or, able, excuse me -- to unmute yourself. So, Alice McNally, why don't we turn to you next?

MS. McNALLY: Um.

MR. KLUKAN: We can hear you Alice

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Or, we could a moment ago, I think.

MS. McNALLY: Can you now?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we absolutely can.

MS. McNALLY: Thank you. Alice McNally,

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and I am a member of the Coalition for Nuclear Safety in Del Mar.

There are staggering environmental and financial costs to keeping Diablo Canyon open. Please consider these in your scope of your environmental review.

This will create 20 more years of nuclear waste, with no guarantee of safe storage of permanent home.

California taxpayers could pay \$45 billion or more to prolong Diablo Canyon, hundreds of millions of dollars every year just for extending the life of the facility.

This doesn't account for the enormous extra cost incurred following a disaster, like a reactor leak or earthquake damage.

Unit 1 pressure vessel has not been tested for embrittlement since 2003, and could shatter at any time there is any stress on the reactor, resulting in huge emissions of radioactivity.

An extension of the facility's life for 20 years after its scheduled 2025 shutdown, will generate other large costs just to ensure its ongoing operation, adding to the staggering price tag for PG&E

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rate payers, who already pay the highest electricity bills in the country.

Ignoring its own licensing rules, the DOE has stepped in and provided PG&E \$1.1 million taxpayer-funded lifeline, which doesn't have to be paid back.

The NRC has violated its own rules by sidestepping a required impact statement until now. Diablo Canyon only generates six to eight percent of California's electricity annually.

California has added enough renewables in the past year, to match the output of Diablo Canyon. No fear of blackouts.

The billions of dollars that would be wasted to keep Diablo Canyon running, would be better spent on safe renewable power, such as solar, wind, battery storage, and demand response.

These are more economical and safer options, than allowing Diablo Canyon to continue to operate at the expense of the environment, tax, and rate payers.

Today is the one-year anniversary of the toxic Palestine, Ohio, train derailment. The EPA did nothing and allowed the waste to be burned, causing

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the residents health problems from carcinogens.

California's A and B nuclear waste is routinely sent by train to Clive, Utah, and to New Mexico.

Today, CVS reports they have obtained military records for military base K-2, where vets were exposed to extremely high rates of radioactivity and uranium, called yellowcake. They have been denied health care until now.

Nuclear power and the NRC are created to put a friendly face on nuclear weapons, which have no place in our backyard. Close Diablo Canyon now. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: I was on mute. Thank you very much. Apologize for that. Thank you very much for attending the meeting today, and for offering your comments. And next, we will turn to Jim Stewart. Jim Stewart, I'm going to allow your microphone.

Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you are ready, and then state your name and any affiliation before you begin.

MR. STEWART: Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can.

MR. STEWART: Oh, great. I'm a retired

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professor of physics, and I have read Dr. Digby MacDonald's analysis of the Diablo Canyon Unit 1.

And one of your concerns is public health.

And as other speakers have said, the Unit 1 is so embrittled, not having been tested since 2003, that it's a life-threatening danger to all of us in California.

And we are really, really disappointed that in spite of the submission of Dr. MacDonald's word to you, that you're still going ahead and trying to license this disastrous Unit 1.

We are extremely disappointed and we want you to close down Unit 1 immediately, until it has been tested with both ultrasonic and nanoindentation and the Chopi (phonetic) test, to make sure that all of the material in that reactor vessel.

As Severance was saying, the welds in the pressure vessel are defective. They had excess copper and nickel added, and then they realized that they had made a mistake. And in Unit 2, they made the welds much safer.

So, we beg you to close Unit 1 right now and protect us. Because we don't want to go to sleep at night like the people in Bhopal, India, went to

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sleep, and they never woke up because a weld in one of those chemical plants broke and released deadly gas and they all died.

So, it's time for you to really recognize our need for public health, and not just rubberstamp every single application that comes to you. Bye.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for participating today and for offering your comments at this meeting. Next, we're going to turn to Leslie Purcell.

Leslie Purcell, whenever you are ready, I have allowed your microphone. Feel free to unmute yourself and begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

It looks like, Leslie, that you are unmuted, so we should be able to hear you. I have made you a presenter -- sometimes that helps.

Because, by all accounts, your microphone seems operational. It's just that we're not hearing you. I think maybe, Leslie, you might need to turn up the volume on your microphone.

All right, Leslie, while you work on that -- because it looks like you are unmuted, and it sounds like the system is registering you talking,

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we're just not getting any volume.

So, I would play around with your microphone settings, and then hopefully we can figure that out. If not, I would recommend calling into the backup bridge line as an alternative.

So, I'm going to mute you for right now, unmute you again here in a second, and then we're going to go to Mark -- just Mark.

Whenever, Mark, you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself and state your name and any affiliation.

Again, we are looking for Mark -- I don't have a last name. So, Mark, whenever you're ready, please feel free to unmute yourself and state your name whenever you are ready.

MR. SCHMIDT: Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, yes.

MR. SCHMIDT: Oh, great. My name is Mark Schmidt, a 40-year resident --

MR. KLUKAN: I think, Mark, you might need to get closer to your microphone.

MR. SCHMIDT: Okay, can you hear me better?

MR. KLUKAN: I would say we're going to

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need an outside voice. I apologize, it's just it's very soft what we're getting through.

MR. SCHMIDT: Okay, can you hear me now?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, I think so.

MR. SCHMIDT: Okay. My name is Mark Schmidt. I'm a 42-year resident of Pismo Beach, California, which is a stone's throw from Diablo Canyon Power Plant.

In a push for renewable clean and affordable energy, the continued operation of Diablo Canyon Power Plant is vital to that end, providing nine percent of the California's energy demands.

PG&E has been an economic engine for our community since it opened, providing high-paying jobs and funding for our higher education institutions.

As a retired fireman, I've toured Diablo Canyon Power Plant and can vouch for its safety procedures. They've been good stewards of the land occupied by the plant and surrounding land.

If clean, renewable, and affordable energy is the goal, Diablo Canyon Power Plant is a large part of the answer.

For these reasons and more, I fully support the continued operation of Diablo Canyon Power

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Plant for the next 20 years and beyond. Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for joining us today and for offering your comments during this meeting.

Next, we are going to go Leslie. We'll come back to you in a minute. We're going to make sure you have some time to figure it out. But then we're now going to turn to Karen Bright.

Karen, I have enabled your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you're ready, and start by stating your name and any affiliation.

Again, Karen Bright. Karen, I have made you a presenter. Sometimes that helps. So, hopefully, you should be able to unmute yourself now.

All right, well while we're waiting for Karen, Leslie, are you able to unmute yourself at this time?

If you're calling in on the phone, you may need to hit star-6 to unmute yourself. Otherwise, if you're still using the app -- it looks like you're still interfacing through the app -- you can use the microphone button.

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And if you separately called in, hit star-5 on your phone. Again, that is star-5. If you're calling in through your phone, so I can register your telephone number as someone who would like to speak -- again, this goes for anyone -- if you are calling in via your phone and you would like to speak, hit star-5. Again, that is star-5, to, quote unquote, raise your hand.

Okay, while we're waiting for Karen or Leslie to hopefully deal with some technical issues, we're going to turn to Local Union 403. I have enabled your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you're ready, and state your name and any affiliation once you're ready.

MR. LANE: Thank you. My name is Thomas Lane. I'm the apprenticeship coordinator here at Local 403. I've been a resident of San Luis Obispo County for 50 years, and I worked out at Diablo Canyon off and on for around 30 years.

And I would like to be in favor of extending the licenses for the units, as long as your safety impact study is completed and sufficient.

We need the clean energy, we need the local jobs here in San Luis Obispo, and I can attest

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to the safe and efficient operation of Diablo Canyon Power Plant.

It's one of the safest nuclear power plants that we've had that I've seen around, and in my career, and I would like to thank you for letting me comment today.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for joining us and thank you for offering your comments. Next, we're going to turn to -- we'll come back to Leslie and Karen here in a minute.

Next, we're going to turn to Debbie Arnold. Debbie Arnold, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you're ready, and please state by stating your name and any affiliation.

Again, we are looking for Debbie Arnold at this time. Let me try making you a presenter. All right, hopefully, Debbie, you should be able to unmute yourself at this time.

MS. ARNOLD: Can you hear me okay?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes. Yes, we can.

MS. ARNOLD: Great. Okay, thank you, Brett. And my name is Debbie Arnold, and I am presently the chair of the Board of Supervisors in San

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Luis Obispo County.

I wholeheartedly support the renewal of the operating licenses for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, Units 1 and 2, and I thank the NRC for seeking public input on this action.

Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant has operated safely in our community for nearly 40 years, and we're appreciative of NRC's oversight.

I personally toured the plant many times over the years, in seeing the abundance of marine life and the pristine conditions of the land surrounding the power plant.

PG&E and the Diablo power plant have become a wonderful partner and asset to San Luis Obispo County. Not only has PG&E been the largest private employer in the county, they provided high-paying jobs, provide indentures and temporary workers that also have a huge influence on our county's economy.

And beyond that, PG&E has always been supportive of so many local non-profits, positively impacting the quality of life throughout the county.

Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is important to San Luis Obispo County and to the State

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of California, as the largest producer of clean, emissions-free energy.

For San Luis Obispo County, it goes beyond that. Diablo Canyon's been a good steward of the land in one of the most beautiful areas of our county.

It's provided safe, dependable, and affordable energy for decades, and I hope to see the licenses renewed. I thank you so much for the opportunity to speak.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for attending this meeting and for offering your comments. We very much appreciate it.

Next, we're going to turn to Benjamin Kasper. Benjamin, whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, as I've enabled your microphone, and state your name and any affiliation.

LT. KASPER: Good afternoon. Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you.

LT. KASPER: Good afternoon. My name is Benjamin Kasper. I am a lieutenant in the United States Navy, a former submarine officer who's served onboard a nuclear-powered submarine.

I want to comment today on the scope of

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the radiation worries that a lot of people have. The radiation that comes out of the Diablo plant is less than what I would guess as a patrol on my submarine, and which is also significantly less than just one cross-country flight.

The radiation released by flying across -- or the doses that your body gets from flying across the country, is significantly more than you get from living near a nuclear power plant, which is something that you all should consider.

Additionally, (audio interference), I don't use the term insane weakly, as that is (audio interference), the idea that Diablo Canyon would be anything like Bhopal gas plant in India is just not speaking truthfully.

No radiation leak would cause death in even close to the same manner (audio interference), or at least not (audio interference).

I appreciate being able to speak today. I believe that (audio interference), going back to the environmental impact, most of the comments today have been safety-related, and I appreciate the NRC's work in the safety field, and thoughts that they will come up with the correct answer there.

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Other than radiation, the other scope that I would like, or one of the other two scopes I'd like to talk about are, I know the comment where they said that the impact from earthquakes was off by, specifically, several orders of magnitude.

Words have meaning. I interpret several to be four. And if several does mean four, that means that that person is implying that they're off by 10,000 percent.

I would like that the UCLA professor who believes that the scope of the work is off by 10,000 percent (audio interference) to say that something's off by several orders of magnitude.

My final comment on environmental scope, not safety scope, is the equivalency of the water impact that the plant has, there is a concern about the number of fish, but I think that that should be taken into account, the fish life that is impacted, I believe that there is ample biodiversity around the plant.

A lot of the environment likes warmer water. And when considering the death of fish and fish eggs, it should be looked at and taken into account by the fission industry in California. I

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thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for attending and for offering your comments this afternoon.

So, next we will turn to Karl Pauls. Karl Pauls, whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself and state your name and any affiliation.

MR. PAULS: Hi, can you hear me.

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can.

MR. PAULS: Hi, I'm Karl and a software developer at TerraPower, representing myself only today, as I've represented myself for the last nine years as an environmental activist who supports all climate solutions.

I'm the treasurer of the Ecomodernist Society of North America, and board member of Friends of Fission Northwest. I won't be paid for the advocacy in the last nine years, nor for these comments.

I am a resident of Seattle, Washington, and participant in many local environmental causes, from the DSA to the North American Young Generation in Nuclear.

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And I have to tell you, radiation is everywhere. Radioactive particles are relatively constant in our lives on earth. Every day we consume microscopic amounts of radioactive hydrogen, uranium, potassium, and even cesium, some of that from the horrible use of atomic weapons in the 1940s and '50s.

The difference, of course, between that exposure and what might occur after a nuclear accident, is unfortunately not well understood by the public.

There is significant bias in the regulation, media, politics, and the public-at-large, against nuclear energy, compared to even other nuclear technologies, even without the association to energy production

Non-energy nuclear accidents, which are handled with the same care and professionalism -- usually much better -- than Hanford, Washington, for example, are not well-publicized.

One incident which was slightly deficient was the May 2, 2019, release of radioactive cesium 137, at the Harbor View Training and Research Facility, in the middle of the most densely populated area of Seattle, Washington.

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I learned from my required training at work that this lapse in safety protocols was significant.

They first called it a near miss. The defense-in-death practices of a nuclear workforce, however, prevented serious exposure to the public. None of the environmental press, nor activist groups, have paid much attention to this. Neither the accident, nor the response.

There are no Harbor View downwinders, because we have the tools to detect radioactive contamination.

This type of pollution is the easiest to detect. It literally screams out its existence from yards away.

Compared to using a Geiger counter, chemical contamination is relatively impossible to detect. It requires sampling and testing to discover.

Since 1986, there have been no nuclear accidents which have killed members of the public, to my knowledge. My knowledge might be in a gap here, but it's hard to discover them.

The data from deaths from Chernobyl is, in fact, not settled science. It is based on the

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theories of 20th century eugenesis, who imagined that contamination would permanently affect the human genome. And despite the natural accumulation of low-dose radiation and the human body's ability to repair it, the medical community has been slow to discard all of its old prejudiced beliefs, beliefs similar to who deserves to receive a kidney or heart transplant.

The medical community is slow to relax the extremely stringent regulatory burdens placed on nuclear technologies.

Because the skilled and dedicated nuclear workforce, the public is not at risk from a catastrophic accident, as the public was at Bhopal India's chemical accident.

It is nearly impossible for any of Diablo Canyon's supposed defects to harm the public, because of layered safety and monitoring systems, and because of the requirement for secondary containment, which was sorely missing at Chernobyl.

Earlier comments claim it's hard to imagine anything worse than a nuclear disaster.

This language ignores the dangers of burning hydrocarbons; that is, fossil fuels, those relatively impossible-to-detect chemicals, including

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particulate emissions, which cause emphysema and, of course, climate change. Nuclear energy is simply better on its worse day than the next alternative's standard operating procedure.

Particulate emissions, chemical contamination, child labor in the Congo, and sacrifice zones, like unknown fields, Mongolia, all come from the alternatives to nuclear.

No energy source is perfect, and nuclear is worth the risk. It's almost impossible to see otherwise.

Eventually, I hope that wind and solar will overcome any defects. They seem relatively minor, but these aren't mom-and-pop shops making removal energy devices. They're giant multinational corporations, who don't always have our best interests at heart.

Compared to the fields of Mongolia, the nuclear industry has an extremely robust whistleblower process. Thank you for your time.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for your comments, and thank you for attending today.

Next, we're going to go to Christopher Burnham. Christopher Burnham, I've allowed your

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microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you're ready, and begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

And again, I have made you a presenter, Christopher. So, hopefully, that may help.

MR. BURNHAM: Can you hear me now?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes. Yes, we can.

MR. BURNHAM: Awesome. Hi, my name is Chris. And I do work at Diablo Canyon, but I am not at all representing PG&E with these comments. These are my own thoughts that I wanted to share, these are my own comments. These are personal, not official.

So, I might end up repeating what a lot of other people have said. But firstly, I just wanted to thank the NRC for hosting these sessions, and for receiving our comments.

I think it's great that we're allowed to make our voices heard. And even though there's a lot of disagreement, I appreciate that you're hearing us out.

I just wanted to say from personal experience working at this plant, the obsession with safety is -- well, that's a good thing. But it's everywhere, even down to the smallest little detail.

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I find it extremely unlikely that PG&E would maybe not falsify data, but maybe squint their eyes when they're looking at a regression line on a graph, and I definitely doubt the NRC would let us get away with that.

So, to the people who are suggesting we're somehow getting these licenses based on some bogus data, I just find that incredibly hard to believe.

But more to the point, I wanted to support the renewal of the licenses, not only because I work here, but also because I'd rather not work at a coal or gas-fired plant.

I am statistically safer working at a nuclear plant. The safety record is much higher at nuclear plants, compared to other kinds of power generation, and for a good reason. Nuclear power is, or at least has the potential to be, more dangerous.

That being said, in actual practice a lot of other forms of power generation are more dangerous because they don't have the same stringent adherence to safety protocols.

So, you get more accidents that cause injuries, and possibly deaths, to workers. But then also, you get just the release of chemicals and not

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treating them properly, transporting the fossil fuels.

And of course, climate change. That's the biggest risk of all to the environment right now. And we're already seeing real effects based on manmade global warming because of carbon emissions, and we'll continue to see that.

We need to be doing everything we can to bring our carbon fuel consumption under control. And to that end, if there are problems with the structures, and the embrittlement perhaps, let's find a solution to that problem that allows us to continue operating. Not immediately jump to, the plant needs to be shut down immediately.

There are solutions to problems. There are ways to mitigate risk. But it's a much more safe bet that we can mitigate the risk of nuclear power at Diablo Canyon, then that we can mitigate the risks of continuing to consume carbon as much as we are right now, and just hoping that some other method will get that carbon consumption and carbon fuel emission down.

In the short, renewables, like wind and solar and nuclear, are on the same team. I think going forward we need both of those things.

So, we should be bringing offshore wind

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and solar power online. We should be bringing more solar and other wind plants online. But we should be doing that in order to get rid of gas and coal-fired plants, so that we can continue to reduce our carbon emissions.

And that's the conclusion of my comments.

Thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us today and for sharing your comments with us.

Leslie, we're going to try for you again.

Either try to unmute yourself, or if you called in separately using the bridge line, you need to press star-five on your phone -- again, that's star-five on your phone -- so that your phone pops up as someone who's raised their hand. Again, that is star-five on your phone, if you called in separately using the bridge line.

Okay, next we're going to go to Heather Moreno. Heather Moreno, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you're ready, and begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

Heather, I have promoted you to a

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presenter, so that sometimes helps.

MAYOR MORENO: Can you hear me now? I can't hear you. Are you hearing me?

MR. KLUKAN: I can hear you.

MAYOR MORENO: Ah, there we go. Excellent, thank you.

Well, good afternoon now. I'm Heather Moreno. I am the Mayor of the City of Atascadero. I am speaking on my own today. I'm a 20-year resident of San Luis Obispo County, and I thank you so much for the commission and members of the public being here and talking about this critical issue.

Renewing the license for Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant is a critical step in securing California's energy future.

We all remember just a couple of decades ago California faced significant challenges in meeting its rising energy demands, but through the concerted efforts and advancements in our energy infrastructure, we reliably serve nearly 40 million people across the state.

I'm speaking to emphasize the importance of extending the power plant's operational license for both reactors. Without it, California risks

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struggling to meet its energy needs, potential leading to strain on our grid and the reintroduction of early blackouts.

DCPP's reliability cannot be understated.

Losing nine percent of California's electricity production would have severe repercussions, and while alternative energy sources like solar panels are great and have a lot of promise, especially with offshore wind in the future, they do lack the consistent output of nuclear power, particularly during nighttime, or inclement weather, and the plant's uninterrupted operation is particularly vital during peak demand periods, as evidenced by the frequent flex alert warning and potential power shortages.

Safety is paramount. The gentleman prior to me talked about safety, safety, safety. And whenever I've been through the plant, I have seen that myself firsthand.

They have an excellent track record, almost 40 years of safe and reliable operation, under the vigilant oversight of you all, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

It's situated on solid ground, so the plant's robust design makes it one of the safest

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places to be during earthquakes.

Affordability is another crucial factor. California strives for clean energy. Many renewable options are prohibitively expensive, so nuclear power remains a cost-effective clean energy option, with the initial investment already being made in having built DCP. So, continuing its operation ensures minimal impact on consumers' budget bits.

The local economic output is significant, as the largest private employer in San Luis Obispo County, PG&E provides high-paying jobs that support families and drive economic growth, and then you also have the plant's operation that stimulates the local economy through vendor partnerships and periodic refueling outages.

And many of us know the temporary workers who go in to work on those outages, and that inject substantial funds into the community and into our neighbors' budgets.

So, looking at the future, DCP really is indispensable in meeting our state's ambitious clean energy targets.

As we aim for 100 percent clean energy and the widespread adoption of electric vehicles by 2035,

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the demand for reliable electricity is only going to increase.

Nuclear power is integral to achieving these goals, providing a safe, clean, and reliable energy source that complements these intermittent renewables.

So, renewing the license for the power plant is not just a prudent decision, it's a necessity for securing California's energy future.

With its unparalleled contributions to clean energy, unwavering reliability, its impeccable safety record, affordability, local economic benefits, and the pivotal role in achieving our environmental objectives, DCPD stands as a cornerstone of California's energy landscape. Thank you for allowing me to comment today.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us and thank you very much for your comments.

I'm going to turn next to Karen Bright. I think we may have skipped over you and I apologize about that. Karen, you are a presenter still, so are you able to unmute yourself?

MAYOR BRIGHT: I believe so. Can you hear me?

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MR. KLUKAN: Yes. Yes, we can. Great.

MAYOR BRIGHT: Very good. Thank you so much. Karen Bright here, I'm the Mayor of the City of Grover Beach, which is located approximately 20 miles south of Diablo Canyon, for any of you out of the area.

However, today I'm speaking as an individual. I do appreciate the opportunity to speak to you all and to this subject.

I too offer my support for the licensing renewal of this project. As a mother and grandmother, my greatest concern is the safety aspect of Diablo Canyon. And frankly, in my opinion, to the average layperson, the word nuclear is a bit scary.

However, after touring the facility several years ago, I was so impressed by the safety measures and procedures that I viewed. My concerns were completely alleviated, and as a result, I have since encouraged many with the same concerns to take the opportunity to tour the facility.

I think that just seeing the operation in action really can give you a totally different perspective.

So, I will keep this short. I thank you

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again for the opportunity to speak, and bye now.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for joining us and for offering your comments today. We very much appreciate it.

Next, we're going to turn to Patrick Duffy. Patrick, I have allowed your microphone. Whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, and begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

MR. DUFFY: Thank you. My name is Patrick Duffy. I'm a business representative for IBEW 1245, and we represent approximately 475 of the 1,100 employees at Diablo Canyon.

I'm speaking in support of the license extension for Diablo Canyon on behalf of our organization, IBEW 1245, and the 475 employees we represent.

In order to get to and benefit from the numerous positive environmental consequences already mentioned, I would ask the NRC to consider, in the scope of the EIS, the highly qualified workforce that is and has been operating Diablo Canyon for the past 39 years.

If the license is extended, the NRC should

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have complete confidence that the plant will continue to be operated with the highest standards of performance, reliability, and safety, that the employees have been for the past four decades. Please include this fact and the station's proven performance record, in the scope of the EIS.

I'd like to thank the NRC for the time today to voice our organization's support for the license extension for Diablo Canyon. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for joining us today and for offering your comments. Next, we're going to try Eric Greening. I know we tried before. Eric, hopefully this time it works out.

I've allowed your microphone. I think I can hear you. So --

MR. GREENING: Anyway, can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes. Yes, we can hear you.

MR. GREENING: Very good, thank you for your patience.

And I am Eric Greening of Atascadero, and I share the urgent concern relative to Unit 1, and I very much appreciate the work Bruce Severance has done on it.

I don't agree with keeping Unit 2 open.

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Unit 2, in isolation, would require most of the current workforce to produce half the power, which would probably either be a huge economic loss for PG&E that they wouldn't be willing to take on, or would demand massive subsidies for ratepayers and taxpayers, far beyond the Diablo service area.

But in any event, I think that Unit 1 is of frank concern. Relative to the sea life and the once-through cooling, I think that needs very detailed analysis at the NRC level, because it did not receive the analysis it should have from the State Water Resources Control Board.

They deferred the Senate Bill 846 in rubberstamping an extension of the otherwise illegal waiver of once-through cooling, and SB846 received no analysis of the impacts. In fact, it was a budget trailer bill on the Center of Alcoholic Beverages, that was gutted and amended 72 hours before it was passed, led by almost no one, and with no scientific analysis whatsoever conducted by the legislature that passed it.

I would also like to raise the need to study offsite impacts of waste. Obviously, the high-level waste may be staying there for quite a while,

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because the federal government doesn't know what to do with it, but there needs to be some analysis of the risks of eventually transporting it to temporary or permanent sites and where those sites might be.

But there's a lot of considerably radioactive material that is not the highest level that, according to the current decommissioning plan for the years that have already occurred, would be going to low-income communities and indigenous areas in Oregon, Idaho, and Utah, and these impacts are as much an impact of the project and its consequences and its risks, as the local impacts. There are huge environmental justice concerns with neglecting that.

So, whatever added waste, in the event of relicensing, I don't know where it's going, whether it would go to the same places, but we need to know where it would be going, and we need analysis and mitigation for whatever the impacts of that transportation are.

And I share all the concerns that you will hear raised by the Mothers for Peace, and wanted to make sure that these added concerns get in the record.

One other requested mitigation measure, in the unholy chance that this plant was relicensed, we need not only analysis of the seawater to detect any

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escaping radiation, but we need up-the-food-chain analysis, which is not now being done.

Top marine predators, they need their tissues analyzed, because that's where the radiation that gets into the food chain concentrates. And so, that needs to be a requirement on a regular basis, with obviously a shutdown if the contamination is getting serious.

But I think the time for the shutting down is the time when the current licenses expire. Thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you for joining us and I appreciate your patience in trying to maneuver some technical difficulties you were experiencing. And also, thank you for your comments.

Next, we're going to turn to Leslie Purcell. Hopefully, we can make this work, Leslie. I have unmuted you, I'm going to make you a presenter as well, and do all the things.

It looks like you're unmuted. So, whenever you're ready, Leslie, please feel free to go ahead.

It looks like, so you're unmuted definitely within the system, Leslie. It's just for

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whatever reason, we can't hear you. And I'm not sure why that would be, unless there's some issue with your microphone.

All right, Leslie, I've muted you again. Try unmuting yourself one more time. And then maybe that'll kick-start it, if you will. So, unmute yourself -- there you go -- and now try speaking.

I just want to confirm to the NRC staff, can anyone else hear Leslie?

MR. HARRIS: I cannot.

MR. KLUKAN: Okay. All right, just wanted to make sure. So, Leslie, unfortunately, I think someone mentioned in the chat your mike may be internally muted. So, you might want to go on your screen and look at the volume controls, and then handle it that way.

Unfortunately, from a remote perspective, I can't offer much additional guidance beyond that with respect to your system specs. And thank you.

And Leslie, if you are calling in via phone and that is separate, so if you want to hit star-five -- again, that is star-five -- to bring your phone up, because I'm not seeing your phone in the list of attendees.

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But if it's there, if you hit star-five, we will definitely -- hopefully figure this out. I apologize for all of these concerns.

While we're waiting for Leslie, is anyone else -- right now we have no one else in the queue. So, if you would like to offer a comment at the meeting -- again, we have about 45 minutes left -- please feel free to raise your hand within Teams, or if you're on the phone, press star-five -- hitting that star-five -- to raise your hand if you would like to offer a comment.

Leslie, I, again, feel terrible anytime this is not working. But for whatever reason, it looks like the system is clearly registering you, because your name turns blue, so to speak, the circle around your name within Teams, which indicates that you are speaking. However, we are not hearing anything. And I don't know how to fix that on my end, unfortunately.

But again, is there anyone else who would like to offer a comment as part of the meeting today?

Please feel free to raise your hand within Teams, or hit star-five if you're participating via phone.

Looks like, Leslie, hopefully while you're

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figuring out that mike issue, we're going to go to Bruce, who has his hand up again. I just want to make sure, Bruce -- we'll go to you here in a second -- is anyone who has not yet had an opportunity, like to make a comment at this time? Please, again, feel free to raise your hand within Teams, or hit star-five on your phone.

All right, hearing none, or seeing none I should say, Bruce, I'm going to enable your microphone again. So, we will now go into a second round in whatever time we have remaining.

So, Bruce, whenever you're ready, please feel free to state your name and any affiliation, and begin your additional comments.

MR. SEVERANCE: Yes, can you hear me okay?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes.

MR. SEVERANCE: Okay, Bruce Severance, regulatory compliance engineer, member of the Diablo Canyon Decommissioning Engagement Panel, speaking individually.

Really, I wanted to ask if there are folks at NRC that are on the line, that can answer specific questions about their interpretation of fairly nuanced regulations.

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And as I read it, RG1.99 criterion clearly state that if there are two credible sets of data for each limiting material -- limiting being the most embrittled materials in the plant -- that that is sufficient to require that that data be considered in the fractured toughness assessments.

And from PG&E's own tabular information, it's clear that they have at least two sets of data for each limiting material, but they are insisting that none of the data from their prior pre-2004 stress tests are valid, even though the data seems to meet the credibility criteria.

So, I'm a little puzzled about how they're making that assertion, and whether or not folks at the NRC are specifically asking that question.

Are people interpreting the code the same way that I'm interpreting it? I would find it illogical to interpret the regulations to say that if you've got five or six different capsules in a given RPV that are supposed to be irradiated and allow for future testing for embrittlement, that all of the data would have to come from the same two or three capsules, in order to verify what the status of the most limiting materials are.

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So, it doesn't seem logical to me that PG&E would say, well, we got one outlier in our data on plate materials in capsule S, and we've got one outlier in our data for the weld materials in capsule Y, therefore none of our data is credible.

Like, we're throwing away three decades of data on the basis of two outliers, and that protocol is what I'm most concerned about, and if we can look at whether or not they meet the criteria for invalidating their data in actual fact.

I've read through the record on the NRC docket. I only see this visited very summarily in Appendix D of the Capsule V report, page D-5, table D-2. And that clearly shows that even when they eliminate those outliers, they still have two credible sets for each limiting material.

So, why are we throwing it all out? This, to me, is the most critical question. If that data is valid, then Unit 1 is reaching maximum embrittlement by 2024.

Replacing the RPV, I mean, I can only guess at the price tag on that one item alone has got to be \$750 million. We're going to blow our budget for repairing the plant on that one item.

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It's not practical or feasible. So, this is why I think we're all being too binary about this.

And I say that about Mothers for Peace, I say that for the pro-nuclear people on the other side of the line.

We should be looking closely at Unit 2 as viable for another ten years. The metallurgy differences are huge, as one of the other callers mentioned.

We've known about the impurities in the welds of Unit 1 since it was delivered by Westinghouse in 1969. We've known it since then. They told us.

Why are we questioning the data that clearly points to maximum embrittlement by 2024? We're here now. Why would we take that chance?

We talked about the economic benefits. There's no economic benefit if we've got a ruptured RPV and \$24 billion worth of real estate is affected, not to mention the health impacts on the population.

It could cause the value of real estate in five counties surrounding this plant to go down. Does everybody want to risk -- is that an economic risk worth taking? Is a refugee crisis in the State of California a risk worth taking?

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Keep Unit 2 going, take a serious look at Unit 1, and answer that regulatory question.

MR. KLUKAN: All right, Bruce, thank you very much for your additional comments. Just to be clear, this is a scoping meeting. So, there really are postures to receive comments.

With that, I said I did put up the slide here. If you would like to reach out directly to Brian Harris, our safety PM, for this, Brian would be happy to talk with you.

But again, it's outside the scope -- not to overuse that word -- to talk about that, or get into a detailed discussion with it at this time.

With that said, everything you've said has been recorded. It will be shared, obviously, with the environmental staff, as well as the safety staff. So, all of this will be considered.

And I can't say at a general level that embrittlement is something that the staff looks at as part of the safety review. And I see, Brian, that you've come online. So, is there something you wanted to add to that?

MR. HARRIS: Yeah, this is Brian Harris of the NRC. And I just want to say thank you, Bruce, for

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that comment. And your comment will be considered moving forward. So, just wanted to acknowledge that.

And thank you.

MR. SEVERANCE: Thank you. I appreciate that. And I would love to give you a call as well.

MR. KLUKAN: Okay, great. Well, I thank you again, Bruce. We appreciate it, as we appreciate everyone who's participated in this meeting.

Next up it looks like we have someone who has not yet spoken. So, Linda Seeley, I have allowed your microphone. So, whenever you're ready, please feel free to unmute yourself, and begin by stating your name and any affiliation. Again, we are looking for Linda Seeley. Oh, it sounded like we were there.

MS. SEELEY: Okay, I think I got it unmuted.

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, you do.

MS. SEELEY: Okay, thank you very much for holding this meeting today.

My name is Linda Seeley, I am a member of San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace. I wanted to mention a couple of things today about -- I do appreciate all of the people who are very supportive of keeping Diablo Canyon open, for various reasons,

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like economic benefits to our community, of having a large employer like Diablo in our community.

There's something though, that hasn't been looked at at all or addressed today, that I think as -- well, there are a couple of things, actually.

First of all, okay, number one, economically. PG&E's rates for electricity right now are between \$.45 and \$.54 per kilowatt hour, which is the highest rate I think in the whole country, if I'm not mistaken. Certainly, in California.

That SMUD, which is the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, their off-peak rates are \$.13 and peak rates are \$.32. That's 41 percent cheaper than PG&E's prices.

They just raised our rates. And now, apparently in March they're going to raise the rates again.

This is concerning to lots and lots of people. Our governor, at Diablo Canyon, was going to shut down in an orderly fashion. The deal to shut down Diablo Canyon was praised all over the country as a rational way to approach shutting down a nuclear plant.

And now, the State of California has said

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it must go on for five years. PG&E is applying for a 20-year license renewal.

And right now, we have -- I'm not sure. I'm using the figure of 65 million pounds of radioactive waste, the high-level radioactive waste, at Diablo Canyon. We have enough storage space on the spent fuel pad to accommodate all the spent fuel that would be generated in 20 years.

PG&E is approaching this problem saying that if they're granted a 20-year license renewal, and as far as I know, I don't think the NRC has ever turned down a 20-year license renewal application so far, but there PG&E has positive that they are going to be keeping these spent fuel generated for 20 years in the spent fuel pools.

You heard doctor -- oh, what's his name -- Dr. Peter Bird this morning talk about the underestimate of the possibility of the vertical thrust faults directly under the plant, and he did say that for magnitudes of strength that would be possible there, when you think about the fact that we have also the embrittled reactor vessel, which has been spoken about extensively here.

So, thinking about this safety and

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environmental consequences, I mean, think about the fact that it's likely -- or, I'll say possible, okay? -- the NRC has not analyzed this possibility of the larger earthquake right under the fault.

Not larger earthquake, it's more larger ground motion, because of the nature of the faults, number one.

Number two, but storing all the waste, or half the waste, in the spent fuel pools, with nowhere for it to go. Not requiring PG&E to make plans for building a new pad, the analysis of the costs of that spent fuel pad, so that they can move it out of the spent fuel pools, but just allowing them to pass that by and just go under the wire with that.

Not considering the impacts of the once-through cooling on the marine life. I heard a fellow from San Francisco say, oh well, 90 percent of the marine life dies anyway, so who care?

Well, I care. A lot of people care. Because if 90 percent of it dies anyway and we are making 100 percent of it die, that's a big deal.

So, we've got a nuclear power plant built on several earthquake faults, storing at least 65 million pounds of nuclear waste, with a reactor

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vessel under pressure, that probably reached its fractured toughness as reaching it in 2024.

If the NRC doesn't examine these issues really carefully and address each one of them to a T, you have absolutely no right to allow an extension of this nuclear power plant.

And I also appreciate people who say, well, I went out there. I toured Diablo Canyon. It is so safe, blah, blah.

I've been there. It looks great.

The fact is, that you do not see with your eyes the potential problems. It is a beautifully run, well maintained plant with great staff who are very diligent.

Mother nature is stronger than any kind of safeguard that we humans may have. I know I went over. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you for participating in the meeting today and for offering your comments. Next, we're going to go to Peter Adam at the larger microphone.

Whenever you are ready, please feel free to state your name and any affiliation.

MR. ADAM: Can you hear me?

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MR. KLUKAN: Yes.

MR. ADAM: Okay. My affiliation is, I'm a full -- sorry, I'm a former, and I'll spit it out eventually, a former Santa Barbara County Supervisor for the Fourth District.

And, I farm roughly 4,000 crop acres in the Santa Maria Valley at Adam Brothers Farming, Inc. So, there's only one fact that you need to be aware of to reapprove Diablo Canyon.

California does not have a sufficient supply of power to meet demands. California is the source of much of the food and fiber crops for the entire United States and the world.

Diablo Canyon represents over 15 percent of California's clean energy and 9 percent of total California supply. If Diablo Canyon goes offline, we'll have to replace it.

Have you ever gotten a permit for a 2,200 megawatt power plant before? I can tell you, it will take a little while and it will cost a bunch that Californians can't afford.

So, I'll tell you what, replace it first and then take it offline. So, Diablo Canyon has operated safely and reliably for almost 40 years.

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And, I've been there twice. And, it's obvious to me that their maintenance is scrupulous and the wildlife in the area is spectacular. The security at the plant is impressive.

I'm very comfortable with my four grandchildren living near Diablo Canyon, because I know it's safe. And, they need power now and in the foreseeable future.

Please reapprove the continuing operation of Diablo Canyon. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for joining us today and for offering your comments. Ace Hoffman, you indicated in chat that you were having trouble maybe raising your hand.

So, what I've done is unmuted you, Ace. And then, hopefully you should be able to -- Ace, are you able to unmute yourself?

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: I have unmuted you. Hopefully, okay. Well, Ace, while you're trying -- let me make you a presenter. I hope -- maybe that will help.

But, in the meantime, let us go to Francesco Viola at the larger microphone. Whenever

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you're ready, please feel free to state your name and any affiliation.

MR. VIOLA: All right. Thank you very much. Francesco Viola. I'm with Duke Energy. And, my comments are on behalf of myself.

I'm actually the license renewal and Flex Program engineer for the fleet, for the Duke Energy fleet. I just wanted to put out my personal support for Diablo Canyon's license renewal for an additional 20 years.

I just wanted to make a couple of quick comments about the license renewal for Diablo. I've spent my entire working career, which is right at about 15 years in the nuclear industry.

My previous company actually replaced the steam generators for Diablo Canyon a handful of years ago. And, one of the things that has kept me in the industry is just the outlook for the industry and the inherent safety of the industry.

We're talking about clean, reliable, predictable power. In this day and age when we're concerned about global warming and clean energy, nuclear is no better source than to meet those energy goals for the U.S. and for the world.

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A couple of additional comments, I have a little bit of a unique perspective, because I am the license renewal program engineer for the fleet. But, I also am the Flex Program engineer, which deals with beyond design basis events.

Just to provide a little information for those that aren't familiar, the Flex Program was an NRC mandated program after the Fukushima event in Japan. Which essentially mandated all the nuclear sites in the U.S. to have a strategy, defense in-depth strategies for responding to an event such as Fukushima or other natural disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, et cetera.

And so, one of the things that Fukushima and many other nuclear sites in the world do not have that the U.S. industry does have, is this program which allows Diablo Canyon as well as other nuclear sites within the U.S. to provide cooling and safely provide cooling water and functionality to the plant with a complete loss of offsite power.

So, the additional comment that I wanted to make about the license renewal process for Diablo is that one of the things that we all can be thankful for, for those that are against it and for their

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license renewal, is that luckily it's not a popularity contest or a voting process. It's an application process.

And, that application process is very stringent. And, there's requirements that the station has to meet in order to get that application to run that plant for an additional 20 years.

And, additionally in that application, there are requirements that Diablo Canyon would be required to continue inspections and programs for the period of extended operation, the additional life from 40 to 60 years that would ensure that the components and the system structures and components within that site are inherently safe for continued operation, for those that are concerned about the reactor vessels or piping or other components.

That's why the industry has ongoing in-service inspection programs which do ultrasonic and other intrusive inspections to ensure the safety of those -- of those components for continued operation.

So, I just wanted to provide my, a little bit of additional information and some expertise from my time. And, just put out my support for Diablo and their efforts and in their application.

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Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you for participating and for offering those comments. Ace, all right. So, we're going to try you again, Ace, just one more time.

You are a presenter, so you should be able to unmute yourself at any time either using the raise hand function within the app. Or, if you're using your phone, you might want to hit star six.

See if star six will unmute you if you are using your phone in combination with your computer. Because I've unmuted you as a guest.

If you separately called in on your phone and they aren't linked together, you may need to hit star five to raise your hand as well. However, I would try star six as a way to unmute yourself.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Okay. We're not seeing anything. I am very sorry, Ace.

There was a question in the chat as well about the transcript. It will be made available. There will be some processing delay, obviously. But, it will be made available to the public.

Next, we're going to go, turn to Gene

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Nelson. I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you are ready.

And, begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Gene, whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: While we're waiting for Gene, Ace, it looks like you are unmuted. So, do you want to try, Ace, while seeing if we can hear you?

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: All right. Well, we're waiting for Gene or Ace. What I'm going to do is -- oh, do we have anyone else who would like to offer a comment at this time?

Please indicate your desire to do so by raising your hand in the chat.

MR. NELSON: Hello, can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes.

MR. NELSON: I mean, this is very, very frustrating. Okay, can you hear me still?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you.

MR. NELSON: Oh, no. What? It went away.

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MR. KLUKAN: No, Gene, we can still -- we can --

MR. NELSON: I'm getting an echo through the -- I mean, this is awful. They have not figured out the bugs on this thing.

MR. KLUKAN: Gene, -- Gene, we can still hear you.

(No audible response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Gene, I don't know, I messaged you in the chat. We can hear you. I think the issue is, is that you turned off the volume on your computer and thus, you can't hear us. You think you're not talking. But, you were talking.

So, what I would recommend is that you turn it on and then as soon as you start talking, turn off your computer volume so you don't get that echo.

But, I have muted you right now. So, if you want to try again, feel free to unmute yourself and then begin whenever you've unmuted.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Okay. Well, Gene, we did hear you, Gene. I apologize about that. We were able to hear you.

I don't think because you shut off, I get

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the sense is you shut off your speaker that you couldn't hear us, but we absolutely could hear you.

We're going to, while you're figuring that out, we're going to turn to Sherry Lewis.

MR. NELSON: I pushed this, I mean, --

MR. KLUKAN: Gene, we can hear you right now. Gene, we can hear you.

MR. NELSON: Okay.

MR. KLUKAN: So, whenever you're ready, begin.

MR. NELSON: I mean, this is so stressful.

I cannot believe how bad this whole thing is. I mean, okay. So, I'm going to try to get refocused.

Okay. So, my name is Dr. Gene Nelson. I'm the President and Senior Legal Research for Californians for Green Nuclear Power, Incorporated.

Okay. So, what happens is, I'm hearing myself echo about one second later. It's honestly impossible to talk. Good grief.

So, Diablo Canyon opponents have used exaggerations of its risks as a public relations tool to scare people and regulators. Diablo Canyon opponents have continued to use the legal process, with the goal of preventing Diablo Canyon relicensing.

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The remaining cases, Friends of the Earth versus NRC, Number 23-852 before the Ninth Court of Appeals. I listened to a recording of the recent hearing.

The key issue is that the NRC is following a precedent. They have allowed this exemption of the five-year rule for five other nuclear power plants.

Diablo Canyon is number six. It's -- the case is well stated. But, that case should be dismissed.

And, furthermore, this plant was recognized in a joint meeting of the NRC and FERC on January 25. And, they recognized how important it was for California to have reliable electricity.

So again, I support the relicensing of Diablo Canyon power plant. And, I'm going to send in some written comments. I mean, this is -- this is a torture.

Thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you. And again, we did -- we didn't hear any of that echo fortunately. So, and your comment came through clearly.

So, we appreciate it. Thank you for participating in the meeting today and for offering

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your comments.

So, we are now going to go to -- Leslie, I see you there as well. So, let's try this. I'm going to make you a presenter, Leslie.

You should be able to unmute yourself now.

MS. PURCELL: Okay. Can you hear me now?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes. Yes, we can, Leslie.

MS. PURCELL: Okay. Thank you. It is a challenge apparently. Well, I'm Leslie Purcell. I am not speaking -- I'm a Sierra Club member but, I'm not speaking for the Sierra Club.

So, I'm speaking as an individual. I live in Ventura, so I'm down the coast a bit. I would like to bring up a few things.

On the characterization of nuclear power as green or clean, I think there are some issues with that. If you consider, and I would like as part of this permit process to consider all the resources, the fuel, and the extraction of fuel, and the energy used to transport fuel, and make it into their usable form for the plant.

So, overall, the climate impact of the total energy used has to be considered. And also, the communities that are impacted both by extraction and

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transport.

And, as someone had mentioned earlier, this could be an environmental justice issue. It should be considered, whatever fuel is obtained and the methods used, and the energy used to process it and transport.

So, we need to look at the impacts in this whole chain, from the production to the use at Diablo Canyon. And then, we have the question of the waste.

And, the radioactivity lasts for so long. The storage and disposal is a problem. It would be, as someone mentioned recently, would be augmented greatly by continuing the power plant.

Is it 10 or even possibly 20 years? And, how much actually will be produced if there's another 10 or 20 years of this license extension?

And, how will it be stored? How will it be disposed of ultimately? These are questions that are almost never fully adequately addressed but need to be considered during this license extension.

I'd like to have the question of the seawater use also again, looked at. And the effects on marine life both the very small marine life and including the marine mammals as someone else had

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mentioned.

Is there testing of radioactivity in the larger mammals as well? The top of the food chain and fish as well?

Once through cooling is certainly being disfavored. But, I don't know how it's being considered in terms of this license extension.

Again, the disposal of the spent fuel needs to be seriously addressed. And, the used water, seawater, it's concentrated when it's put back out in the ocean presumably. And, what kind of effect does that have on salinity and also the temperature factor.

And, we're having problems already with climate and the seawater. The ocean temperatures are already rising. The sea levels are rising. These impacts need to be considered as part of this extension, potential extension of this permit.

We have -- seismic hazards were also mentioned. And, that this is something that if it doesn't occur as part of the development to this plan, people act like oh, it's okay.

But, one earthquake in the wrong place could spell disaster. And, it's hard to factor that in. I don't know how you quantify that.

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But, it really needs to be looked at. And then, if there's earthquakes that create tsunamis or extra-large waves, that's another issue that needs to be looked at.

Again, it's speculative at this point, but it's also quite possible. And, here in Ventura County, we've had just within the last couple of weeks, just because of the climate effects we've already experienced and rain and windstorms, we had huge waves that created a lot of damage to buildings in Ventura, Port Hueneme, and Oxnard.

And, this is just sort of a quote/unquote normal winter event. But, we're going to have more and more of this with climate change. And, how will that affect the nuclear reactor if it continues?

This is a real issue that I think needs to be addressed. People also mentioned the ruptures in the infrastructure and the seriousness of that.

In terms of jobs, well, if we do close down the reactors, there will be a few -- a number of jobs created. I don't know in terms of how many people employed there now versus how many would be employed in terms of closing down and all that process.

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But, that's something that could be considered as well. We have so many opportunities for solar in this state that are not being used in terms of parking lots, industrial commercial building roofs, residential, municipal buildings.

There's so many areas where the solar production could easily be implemented if the will was there. And, I want that to be included.

And, there's a lot more being done with battery storage and different varieties of battery storage.

So, I would just like to kind of encourage the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to try and get a really good overall view of all the impacts from the beginning of the extraction of the fuel sources to the disposal of the nuclear waste and the environmental impacts to our coastal and marine habitats as well.

And, I would just note that as someone else had, that PGA does have problems throughout its service area and other parts of the state.

So, they may be doing a good job here and it's good to hear from the people that work there, as to how much safety protocols there are.

But, I would just say, we need to take a

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look at the big picture and also to think yes, there is a lot of possibilities for renewable energy right now that could just be implemented.

And, thank you very much. I appreciate it.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you. And, thank you for working through dealing with those technical difficulties. I apologize that you had to deal with that hassle.

But, thank you again for attending the meeting today and for offering your comments.

Well, we have two people in the queue and then I want to try Ace one more time. And, I think that will be all the people we have time for.

So, Sherry, I'm going to unmute you next.

So, whenever you are ready, please feel free to unmute yourself. And, begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

Again, we're looking for Sherry Lewis.

MS. LEWIS: Can you hear me now? Can you hear me?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes, we can hear you. We can absolutely hear you.

MS. LEWIS: Okay. I am Sherry Lewis.

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And, I'm a member of San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace. Which means I live near the plant. And, I am sorry that the plant is there.

A lot of people talk about how we don't -- we need the energy that the Diablo Canyon can provide.

And, I want to quote some points from -- that were repaired -- prepared in a report by Rao Konidena of Rakon Energy, who is an independent energy consultant focusing on wholesale market practices and policy.

He's an expert on this and we have hired him. And, in his report he said a few things I want to read. He says, for example, that California has enough power, including storage, to keep the lights on without the 2,200 megawatts of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant, even during extreme heat events.

The California Independent System Operator, CISO, now has more than 8,500 megawatts of energy storage capacity with more being added each year. Plus, up to 5,000 megawatts of demand response, which is more than sufficient to ensure grid reliability.

Even if we focus only on what has already been constructed and interconnected by the end of 2023, California has at least 931 megawatts of excess

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capacity by the end of 2023.

California continues to add renewables every year. And, is projected to have at least 7,000 megawatts more by 2026. Three times the capacity of Diablo Canyon.

This data comes from the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission, reliable sources. Inexplicably however, the Energy Commission staff draft September report omitted over 10,000 megawatts of renewables from its analysis of whether continued operation of Diablo is needed to ensure grid reliability.

The CEC's staff erroneous analysis is bad for California's clean energy future because number one, the nuclear power plant's high cost and inflexibility hinders deployment of more renewables and storage.

And two, favoring Diablo Canyon as an inflexible electricity supplier, will drive out flexible renewables, and thereby increase the danger of blackouts.

I think that's all I will read. But, he's an expert who's saying we've got enough energy. And, it's not critical that we keep Diablo Canyon online.

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And, that's what I want to say. Thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Well, thank you very much for attending the meeting today. And, for offering those comments.

Next, we're going to go to -- and again, these are going to be our last two speakers. So, we're going to go to Ronald Martin next.

And then, we're going to try Ace Hoffman one more time. So, Ronald, I have allowed your microphone. Please feel free to unmute yourself whenever you are ready. And, begin by stating your name and any affiliation.

And, sometimes there's a little delay of when you're able to unmute yourself. There you go. We can hear you.

MR. MARTIN: Okay. My name is Ronald Martin. I'm a member of the Tehipite Chapter of the Sierra Club in Fresno.

And, I encourage you not to reticence Diablo Canyon because of the dangers of the earthquake faults nearby and how much damage would be done to the central valley where I live if radiation were to get loose.

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And, all this electricity isn't needed. And, it would be less expensive to add more rooftop solar or wind power, which would be less expensive than what it would cost to keep Diablo Canyon going.

And, it doesn't function well as a backup, because it's so difficult to power it up and power it down. So, I'll add my voice to saying that Diablo Canyon should be shut down.

Thanks.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much, Ronald, for those comments and for participating in the meeting today.

So, we're going to try Ace one more time. I think I can hear you, Ace. So, try talking.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: Yeah, unfortunately, it looks like you're talking, but we're not hearing any sound. The same problem that Leslie was experiencing.

I very much apologize for the technical difficulties you are experiencing. What I will say to you, Ace, is that okay, I'm going to make you an attendee and promote you one more time. Maybe that will kick start it in a way.

All right, try unmuting yourself one more

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time. Okay. And then, anything? It looks like you're unmuted. So, you should be able to talk.

And, there might be something, an internal setting on your microphone.

(No response.)

MR. KLUKAN: All right. I'm really sorry, Ace. I apologize that you've had to go through this.

So, what I'm going to say to you is this, given that I'm facilitating the meeting next week, is that if you show up to it, after we have elected officials speak, I will make you the first speaker, just because you went through a lot of hassle today trying to deal with this.

So, if you show up to the public meeting, I'll guarantee you a spot at the front, because I'm the facil -- oh, I think, we can hear you. We can hear you.

So, go for it, Ace.

MR. HOFFMAN: All right. It was a setting in the system sound volume mixer, not on the app. Okay. So, here we are.

And, speaking for myself, I greatly appreciate all the effort that you've put in. And, I understand that I'm over, running over time. So, I'll

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try to talk fast.

But, I am almost 70. I've been studying nuclear power for about 50 years, maybe longer. I toured the nuclear power plant myself about 40 years ago at the Connecticut Yankee.

And, I guess you could say, I was impressed. It looked clean. I've had two cancers and a stroke. So, let me get started.

The notes that I'm going to read from, I wrote while I was listening to the meeting. So, I hope I don't go too long. But, here we go.

It's amazing to hear the pro-nukers try to justify the continued existence of nuclear power plants.

Forty years ago, they said we need nuclear power because of political disturbance in the Middle East. But, America generally exports far more fossil fuels than it imports.

Thirty years ago, they said we needed nuclear power because we were running out of fossil fuels. But, more is being pulled out of the ground than ever before.

Twenty years ago, they said we needed nuclear power because wind and solar weren't there

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yet. But, had we invested in them they would have been there.

And, ten years ago, they finally, finally started to say we needed nuclear power because of climate change. An excuse that has no more validity than any of the other excuses.

And now, they say it will save money while we switch to something. But, they assure us nothing is cheaper than electricity from nuclear power. Meanwhile it is, in fact, the world's most expensive energy.

They say nuclear power is a base load, because wind and solar are intermittent. But, ignore not only the sudden losses of such enormous amounts of power, but also the regular removal of this base load because of required fuel replacements and rearrangement outages that might start at a scheduled time, but they're often extended for unplanned lengths of time when unexpected problems are discovered during the inspections that always accompany the outages.

This is hardly what you'd call reliable. And, its emissions include not only regular radioactive emissions, but also significant fossil fuel use in the nuclear fuel cycle and during the

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operation of the reactor.

Several tons of megawatts of power come into the reactor while its operating, which is often generated with fossil fuels. And, of course, the backup generators are almost always fossil fuels and ours are fossil fuels.

There are enormous risks of enormous emissions. One accident can release more nuclear effluence into the environment than all the previous nuclear accidents in the United States to date.

And, there have been bad ones. But, nothing like what is possible any time, any day, at any reactor.

There is no reason to compare the emissions of Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant to that of fossil fuels as an excuse to keep Diablo Canyon open.

The question of emission must include the calculation that includes the risk of accidents and their potential emissions. Because accidents do happen. They have happened, they are happening as we speak, and they will continue to happen.

They happened at Three Mile Island, Chernobyl, Fukushima, Santa Susana, SL-1, the loss of

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the scorpion and the thresher, loss of bombs at Palomares, loss bombs off the coast of Georgia, and thousands of other nuclear accidents have already occurred around the world, each with global consequences. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's own oversight failures have caused huge financial losses and risks -- and/or risks causing catastrophic accidents such as my local nuclear power plant, San Onofre, when they installed poorly designed replacement steam generators that the NRC let them consider quote, like for like, when they were substantially and significantly and poorly redesigned.

The intent of the redesign was to increase profit for the plant's owner, Southern California Edison. Instead, it cost them billions of dollars and risked destroying all of southern California. This was a mistake by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

In Ohio, multiple years of poor inspections on the part of the NRC resulted in a hole in the head of the nuclear reactor at Davis-Besse. A problem that was inevitably going to cause a meltdown.

The reactor pressure vessel head was completely rusted through. And, the stainless steel liner was all that was holding back a meltdown.

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And, it was bulging out when the problem was discovered. And, it was only discovered by a fortunate event. A worker leaned against the control rod and it bent over.

Diablo Canyon Unit One is known, as we've heard several times in this conversation, to have severe risk of destruction from embrittlement.

Clearly the main purpose of extending the DCNPP license either for five years, as Pacific Gas and Electric claims they plan to extend it, or for 20 or 40, or 100 years total that the NRC claims are possible for a nuclear power plant, is profit for the corporation. And, kudos for Governor Newsom, a sly pro-nuker and with an eye on the White House.

Diablo Canyon will be 40 years old soon. Other things that tend to fall apart after decades despite regular maintenance, include buildings, pipelines, dams, computer centers, vehicles, ships, everything wears out.

Is there any reason to risk -- I am about two-thirds finished. So, if we don't mind going just a couple more minutes, I'll finish.

Otherwise, I'll just send it all in. It's up to you.

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MR. KLUKAN: No, that's fine. I -- you've just been -- people can leave if they want to. So, just feel free to finish right now.

MR. HOFFMAN: Okay. Thank you. Is there any reason to risk Diablo Canyon at this late stage? No. There's none whatsoever.

Renewable energy includes widely distributed sources including, but not limited to, offshore wind, onshore wind, rooftop solar, industrial level solar, geothermal.

There is also phenomenal opportunity within California for increased energy efficiency, which requires adding no new sources of energy. Diablo Canyon can be closed just by increasing energy efficiency within the state.

Most importantly, after nearly a full century of being told that there is, will be, could be, or might be a solution to the problems for nuclear waste, even today we heard on the NRC's own hearing, looking right here for comments from the public, that we could simply rocket nuclear waste to the sun where it could do no one any harm.

It's been offered as a solution for at least 40 or 50 years. And, it is preposterous

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considering the rate of accident launches and the cost, the financial cost would make it absurd too.

And, the NRC thanks the person for his comments, which was strongly in support of Diablo Canyon. But, if that's the level of the thought that goes into supporting Diablo Canyon, I just don't understand it.

In reality, there is no solution to the waste problem. And, the nuclear waste of Diablo Canyon will probably stay onsite for centuries, if not forever.

Nuclear waste is extremely hazardous. It's millions of times more hazardous than nuclear fuel that has ever been used in the nuclear reactor.

And yet, making more ever more of this waste without any solution to the problem, seems to be the only thing the NRC ever endorses. They've never not relicensed a request.

They could have rejected P&G's NE license right at the beginning, or -- and all license extensions because there's no solution to the waste. Waste you said you would take after five years.

There's no guarantee of safety. And, there's no assurance whatsoever. And, there's no

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record. You have no record to go on because of the accidents that I mentioned earlier.

The last thing I want to mention is that the reactor's -- Diablo Canyon is under numerous aircraft routes. And, the reactors are not protected against airplane strikes.

The fuel out in the open is not protected against airplane strikes. They're not protected against earthquakes, tsunamis, terrorism, operator error, intentional operator actions that could destroy the reactor.

And, not to mention common failures where two or three or four things go wrong. It's almost impossible to do an analysis of these such -- of such complex interactions. And, the older that plan gets, the more likely those things that can happen are to happen.

So, please consider all these things and do not relicense Diablo Canyon or any other nuclear power plant.

And again, I thank you for your patience.

I thank you for listening. I thank you for this hearing. And, thank you very much.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much for your

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patience and for participating today.

So, we are ten minutes over. We have one hand up. We are going to finish. I'm going to try to allow your microphone. This is for a phone number starting 626.

I have unmuted you. You should be able to talk right now. But then, after this, we are -- we're unfortunately going to have to wrap it up.

So, phone number 626-797-88, if you can, if that is you, try to unmute yourself by pressing star six. Again, that is star six.

MS. TAYLOR: Hello?

MR. KLUKAN: Yes. We can hear you.

MS. TAYLOR: Okay. I'd like to thank the last gentleman who spoke.

My concerns are the earthquakes. We had a couple this past month. And, there is no guarantee that we are -- anyone is going to be safe.

And, the fact that they also de -- have deregulated some of the contaminates in the water, if it goes, you know, into the water, if the radioactivity goes into the water, they're not going to be cleaning it up.

And, the EPA also, according to the

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Supreme Court, has allowed for more contaminants in people's drinking water throughout the state.

So, that raises a large concern for pollution, what we're eating, the cancer rates. You know, the fact that, you know, we do not have a healthcare for all so that we will be able to seek treatment if we are exposed to these contaminants.

And, it's just, you know, going renewable, it would be the best route, the safest route, versus something that is an unknown and cannot be guaranteed, you know, for our safety.

In this state we have earthquakes. And, it's not something that is -- that comes in a schedule. It happens randomly.

So, I hope that, you know, these that -- all the considerations, you know, and people will move on from nuclear onto doing other things. Other jobs have left and they have, people have had to, you know, readjust and move on.

Maybe we should have an education for all so that if you do lose your job, you can be reeducated and move onto something that's going to be safer.

These -- having the nuclear facilities is unsafe in this state particularly. Thank you.

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MR. KLUKAN: Speaker, could you -- we didn't catch your name. Could you just state your name so we have that for the transcript?

MS. TAYLOR: Oh, certainly. I'm Dee Taylor.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you very much Dee.

MS. TAYLOR: You're welcome.

MR. KLUKAN: We appreciate it.

MR. KLUKAN: So, with that, --

MS. TAYLOR: You're welcome.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again. So, thank you everyone for your patience. And, for those of you who had to deal with technical issues, I very much appreciate you sticking with us.

Again, we will, as Kimberly mentioned, or as Kim mentioned, we will have a meeting on February 8 as noticed on the NRC website.

And, I thank you for the patience you've exhibited today and for the comments you've offered. And, with that, I'll turn it over to Steve for final, or closing remarks.

MR. KOENICK: Thank you, Brett for your job facilitating. And, on behalf of the staff, I want to thank everyone for taking the time to attend

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today's public meeting and more importantly, for your comments on scoping.

I'd like to briefly summarize our next steps. We are in the midst of a scoping period. And, we'll accept your comments until February 23, 2024.

Our team will gather the comments that we heard today, as well as comments that we've received from www.regulations.gov, with using Docket ID NRC-2023-0192, email and postal mail letters.

We will compile these comments, evaluate them, and issue a scoping summary report that will summarize the conclusions reached from the scoping process.

We anticipate issuing the draft environmental impact statement in the fall of 2024. Once we issue the draft environmental impact statement, we'll have another public meeting and comment period to receive additional input from you.

We look forward to your comments once we've prepared a draft evaluation. We appreciate today's comments and sharing your perspectives.

Even though this is an environmental scoping meeting, I want to make sure that everyone understands that any safety issues that were brought

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up will be provided to the appropriate safety reviewers for their consideration as well.

Thank you all again for your questions, your comments, and for taking the time to attend today's meeting. Have a wonderful afternoon.

And I hope some of you, as Brett mentioned, there is the in-person meeting next week on February 8. Thank you.

MR. KLUKAN: Thank you again everyone. This ends the meeting. Court reporter, you can end the recording at this time.

And again, everyone have a good rest of your day. Thank you so much.

(Whereupon, the above-entitled matter went off the record at 4:17 p.m.)

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